

19991020.qrp v01\_n614.qrl.991020

Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 19:03:10 EDT

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 1614

QRP-L Digest 1614

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [53579] Re: Loop antennas & loopy ideas  
by "Steve Yates, AA5TB" <aa5tb@swbell.net>
- 2) [53580] FS: unbuilt KnightSMite kit  
by k5zty@juno.com
- 3) [53581] QRP Homebrewer info via email  
by "George Heron" <n2apb@erols.com>
- 4) [53582] Announcing the Iowa QRP Group Buy With Paul Washa Books  
by "John Burnley" <burnleyia@home.com>
- 5) [53583] PACIFICON: 1999 de K7Q0  
by "Chuck Adams K7Q0" <k7qo@primenet.com>
- 6) [53584] Re: Special Zombie Pins for Operating Zombie Shuffle  
by Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
- 7) [53585] Steve Weber e-mail ?  
by KF4EIB@aol.com
- 8) [53586] Re: Loop antennas & loopy ideas  
by mikemo@attglobal.net
- 9) [53587] FM power on ts-430  
by mikemo@attglobal.net
- 10) [53588] Off Topic?? -- Pacificon Compendiums  
by mwattcpa@earthlink.net (Marty Watt)
- 11) [53589] Fireball 40 - low output  
by n5ib@juno.com
- 12) [53590] Re: PACIFICON: 1999 de K7Q0  
by mwattcpa@earthlink.net (Marty Watt)
- 13) [53591] Re: FM power on ts-430  
by mwattcpa@earthlink.net (Marty Watt)
- 14) [53592] RE: Honest RST reports  
by "Mont Pierce, KM6WT" <km6wt@netzero.net>
- 15) [53593] Re: Loop antennas & loopy ideas  
by "Steve Yates, AA5TB" <aa5tb@swbell.net>
- 16) [53594] Re: Honest RST reports  
by "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
- 17) [53595] The GH Antenna Shorthand System  
by "Bruce Prior" <n7rr@hotmail.com>
- 18) [53596] PacifiCon 99  
by "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
- 19) [53597] Re: The GH Antenna Shorthand System

- by "Steve Yates, AA5TB" <aa5tb@swbell.net>
- 20) [53598] Re: Fireball 40 - low output  
by "George Heron" <n2apb@erols.com>
- 21) [53599] removal from list  
by randy cornelison <randyc@tsixroads.com>
- 22) [53600] RE: Honest RST reports  
by Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
- 23) [53601] WTB : Ten Tec Model 206 xtal calibrator  
by osier <osier@northnet.org>
- 24) [53602] RE: Honest RST reports  
by Bob Patten <n4bp@bc.seflin.org>
- 25) [53603] Re: Let's get digital  
by "Leon Heller" <leon\_heller@hotmail.com>
- 26) [53604] Any QRP-Lers at Wescon?  
by "David Maliniak" <dmaliniak@penton.com>
- 27) [53605] Re: Pacificon Compendiums  
by "Yin Shih" <ylshih@alumni.caltech.edu>
- 28) [53606] TT2 info  
by tom whalen <wb5qyt@eFortress.com>
- 29) [53607] Ten-Tec 206A Crystal Calibrator Modification  
by "Bob Helms" <af5z@inetport.com>
- 30) [53608] Trade  
by "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
- 31) [53609] Re: Honest RST reports  
by Michael Neverdosky <mneverdosky@earthlink.net>
- 32) [53610] Re: He shall be missed  
by Henry Freedenberg <henryf@quartz.gly.fsu.edu>
- 33) [53611] 2N2/40 Sidetone Level  
by "Jerry Henshaw" <jhenshaw@bellsouth.net>
- 34) [53612] The Electronics of Radio  
by Bruce Kizerian <kizerian@ced.utah.edu>
- 35) [53613] Re: Honest RST reports  
by Dave Sjolin <sjolin@swbell.net>
- 36) [53614] AR QRP 40m Net Tonight  
by Robsparks@aol.com
- 37) [53615] Re: Honest RST reports  
by "Steve Sorrell" <ap036@detroit.freenet.org>
- 38) [53616] Tek plugin pages  
by Dave Pomeroy <dave\_pomeroy@yahoo.com>
- 39) [53617] Re: FM power on ts-430  
by Roy Crosier <crosier@toto.net>
- 40) [53618] Re: QRP HV supply?  
by Tayloe Dan-P26412 <Dan\_Tayloe-P26412@email.mot.com>
- 41) [53619] Re: Pacificon Compendiums  
by Christian Void <cvoid@netcom.com>
- 42) [53620] WTB: Combo Straight key/Paddle  
by Clifton W Sikes <ab5uacw@juno.com>
- 43) [53621] Nice gell cell charger from Walmart

by Jeff <fantbb@yahoo.com>  
44) [53622] RE: Nice gell cell charger from Walmart  
by "Kevin Muenzler WB5RUE" <wb5rue@stic.net>  
45) [53623] Re: Tek plugin pages  
by Michael Melland <badger@vbe.com>  
46) [53624] FS: Unbuilt OHR Kits  
by "Phinizy, William" <wphinizy@filenet.com>  
47) [53625] Re: Nice gell cell charger from Walmart  
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>  
48) [53626] Pacificon: Foxhunt log, 15 Oct  
by Mike Gipe <mgipe@reliablemeters.com>  
49) [53627] Re: Pacificon: Foxhunt log, 15 Oct (fwd)  
by Chris Cartwright Sr <ccart@phideaux.com>  
50) [53628] window vs ladder line  
by "Art Neilson, AH6PZ" <art@hawaii.rr.com>  
51) [53629] Re: Nice gell cell charger from Walmart  
by "Hugo Catta" <h.catta@worldnet.att.net>  
52) [53630] Which rig to build series?  
by N9DD@aol.com  
53) [53631] Just Do it.  
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>  
54) [53632] Re: Which rig to build series?  
by N9DD@aol.com  
55) [53633] Pacificon Reports - FB!  
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>  
56) [53634] Re: Honest RST reports  
by Michael Neverdosky <mneverdosky@earthlink.net>  
57) [53635] building reduction drives  
by Christian Void <cvoid@netcom.com>  
58) [53636] ElmeRadio and Happy Dance  
by Bruce Kizerian <kizerian@ced.utah.edu>  
59) [53637] Re: window vs ladder line  
by "Art Neilson, AH6PZ" <art@hawaii.rr.com>  
60) [53638] Re: 2N2/40 Elmer  
by "Jim Kortge, K8IQY" <jokortge@prodigy.net>  
61) [53639] RE: Nice gell cell charger from Walmart  
by Jeff <fantbb@yahoo.com>  
62) [53640] RE: Nice gell cell charger from Walmart  
by "Kevin Muenzler WB5RUE" <wb5rue@stic.net>  
63) [53641] Searchin' for link-tuner (ATU). Loop antennas.  
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>  
64) [53642] FS qrp  
by RangerSF5@aol.com  
65) [53643] Re: Honest RST reports  
by Bob Patten <n4bp@bc.seflin.org>  
66) [53644] re: Window vs Ladder Line  
by Charles Kadesch <chas@digizen.net>  
67) [53645] Aw shucks! Where'd ya get it?

by "ai2q" <ai2q@ispchannel.com>  
68) [53646] Red Hot 40  
by dave\_epps@juno.com  
69) [53647] Chuck's (K7Q0) Generosity  
by Jim Lowman <jmlowman@ix.netcom.com>  
70) [53648] Sealing antenna joints  
by "Ronald Hands" <rhands@hwcn.org>  
71) [53649] Re: building reduction drives  
by Drbob92031@aol.com  
72) [53650] MN9 QRP TRANSCEIVER  
by "W. Frank Nance, W6MN" <frank@w6mn.reno.nv.us>  
73) [53651] Re: window vs ladder line  
by "Cla KA0GKC" <ka0gkc@arrl.net>

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Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 18:12:48 -0500  
From: "Steve Yates, AA5TB" <aa5tb@swbell.net>  
To: nilsbull@juno.com, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53579] Re: Loop antennas & loopy ideas  
Message-ID: <007901bf1a87\$765bd460\$8937a497@aa5tb>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Nils,

"...discovered that (a) the vertical seems to work better on receive..."

I find that the signal to noise ratio is usually better on the small loops as compared to a full size dipole but the signal strength will be down, probably due to the smaller capture area. Often times there is little difference on transmit though. If losses are kept to a minimum a small antenna can radiate every bit as well as a large one but simply doesn't have the receive area of a larger antenna.

If you're interested I have a lot of small transmitting loop information on the following page:

<http://home.swbell.net/aa5tb/loop.html>

Have fun.

73,  
Steve Yates - AA5TB  
Fort Worth, TX - EM12gs  
<http://home.swbell.net/aa5tb>

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Date: Mon, 18 Oct 1999 21:43:35 -0500  
From: k5zty@juno.com  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53580] FS: unbuilt KnightSMite kit  
Message-ID: <19991019.183209.-15331.3.k5zty@juno.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I found an unbuilt KnightSMite surface mount 80 mtr xcvr kit while cleaning out the dark corners of my workbench.. I probably won't build it any time soon as I already have too many projects started and unfinished. So, I will mail it to anyone who will send me \$15.00. Email me off list if interested.

Bill, K5ZTY  
Houston, TX  
k5zty@juno.com

"Everyone is someone else's wierdo"

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Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 20:49:12 -0500  
From: "George Heron" <n2apb@erols.com>  
To: "NJQRP" <NJQRP@njqrp.org>, "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53581] QRP Homebrewer info via email  
Message-ID: <017a01bf1a9d\$67d408c0\$b69aaccf@computer>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

A number of requests have been coming in from people (who don't have web browsing capabilities) for details about QRP Homebrewer, the new QRP publication from the Jersey QRP group.

As previously mentioned, content and subscribing information is described at the website:  
[http://www.njqrp.org/data/qrp\\_homebrewer.html](http://www.njqrp.org/data/qrp_homebrewer.html)

And now this same information is also available via the automated email system provided on that server. Just send an email to EMBOT@NJQRP.ORG and put SEND QRP\_HOMEBREWER in the body of the email. Almost immediately an email will be returned to you containing the full details of the publication: issue frequency, material theme, contents, and subscribing information.

Please let us know if you have any questions not addressed on the website or via the automated email system.

And BTW, all orders for samples and subscriptions of the first issue have been placed in the mail. Let us know what you think! And let the \*authors\* of the individual articles know what you think too ... it's their wonderful material being shared for all to enjoy!

73, George N2APB  
editor & publisher of the QRP Homebrewer  
for the Jersey QRP Club

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Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 19:54:01 -0500  
From: "John Burnley" <burnleyia@home.com>  
To: <IaQRP-L@divis17.ped-gen.uiowa.edu>  
Cc: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [53582] Announcing the Iowa QRP Group Buy With Paul Washa Books  
Message-ID: <001301bf1a95\$9a2616e0\$1b790818@c149522-a.west1.ia.home.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The Iowa QRP Club is pleased to announce a group buy from Paul Washa Books (W0TOK). Paul has agreed to extend this offer to QRP-L subscribers as well. There are several titles available. Just remember to specify the Iowa QRP Club group purchase when contacting Paul. These prices reflect USA shipping (all 50 states). Any DX orders should contact Paul first to see if he can accommodate them.

Here are the details:

ARRL 2000 Handbook without software \$28.00 delivered

ARRL Antenna Compendium 6 \$17.00 delivered

ARRL W1FB Design Notebook \$11.00 delivered

ARRL Solid State Design \$14.00 delivered

ARRL Intro To RF Design with software \$24.00 delivered

ARRL Antenna Handbook with software (18th edition) \$24.00 delivered

Joy of QRP by Adrian Weiss (W0RSP) \$21.00 delivered

ARRL Mini Logbook (approx 6'' by 4'') \$5.00 delivered  
(Paul tells me that the minilog is great for mini power  
stations and will fit a backpack or small case just fine for  
portable work)

ARRL 1999 Satellite Anthology \$13.00 delivered

If you would like to see any other titles please Email me privately.

How to order: You must contact Paul and specifically  
mention the Iowa QRP group purchase. You may contact Paul  
at: w0tok@email.msn.com or phone (612) 472-8991. His  
address is:

Paul Washa (W0TOK)  
4916 Three Points Boulevard  
Mound, MN 55364-1245

He will accept checks or money orders (but no credit cards).  
This group buy will run 30 days. IAQRP members attending  
the Des Moines hamfest on Sunday October 31st may purchase books  
there (prices adjusted for no shipping).

The usual disclaimers apply. I have no financial interest in  
Paul's business and am not receiving anything in return  
for getting this deal together.

72, John NU0V

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Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 19:58:47 -0500

From: "Chuck Adams K7Q0" <k7qo@primenet.com>  
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53583] PACIFICON: 1999 de K7Q0  
Message-ID: <199910200055.RAA08453@smtp01.primenet.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Gang,

Here is the sequence of events as I remember them after about 33+ hours total for the trip for both ways..... Mileage may vary but I got a total of 1,600+ miles for the trip.

After driving from Prescott AZ to Concord AZ with one nite at Motel 6, I was almost to the point of laughing when I saw the Concord, CA city limit sign!! "Concord, CA Elevation 72" Now how ironic it was to have the largest gathering of QRPers on the west coast at a place with that altitude? :-)) Guess I'm the only person to read that sign?

First person I see in the parking lot of the Sheraton was Tom Schiller, President of Force12. Told him I'd be by to place a slot in his building schedule for towers, etc.... Which I did by the way.

Then ran into Ron Stark, KU7Y and then Mary Cherry, AE6A, the new editor of QQ. She and Ron gave me a box of original photos from QQ to scan in for the QQ CD project. I need all issues of QQ before 1979 in order to complete this project, so everyone look in their closets and in the attic. More on this later.

So the QRP crowd met in the lobby at 5:45 and we all drove over to Fuddrucker's for dinner. They gave us the upstairs and used the dumb waiter to get the food upstairs. Saved them a lot of trouble and gave us more time to visit and carry on with old and new friends. Someone in the crowd of over 70 gave the checker their call to use as their name to call out. Let's all do that next year. :-))

Then it was a mad dash back to the hotel to get ready for the TT2/MRX contest. I think some had warm solder joints at the start time..... Now I have been a ham some 42 years, been to Dayton many times, HamCom, Atlanticon, Ft Smith, etc. This was the most fun I have had at any. This is not a put down on the others, it is just the first time that I was free from other duties and obligations and I could enter into the contests. Being a judge and working at some of these takes a lot of hard work and time and leaves little to really get into the fun parts. So as some have



already posted (and I think the pictures of me and/or Dave Fifield standing on chairs and tables will make someone a lot of money :-)) I was having fun and the event was a tremendous success IMHO. A great idea.

Thanks to Doug Hendricks, KI6DS, and the NorCal group for the idea and the kit for the TT2/MRX combo. It was above and beyond the call of duty for them to do this. Since I was interested in doing the Manhattan Style construction, I decided to do the whole project using same. I call it the K7Q0/W7ZOI/NN1G mods (without the permission of the other gentlemen by the way) TT2. I will do an article for QRPp on how I did it and put it on the web page so that Randy J. doesn't come after me either. More on this later and in another posting. Just a quick rundown. Go to QRP Classics from ARRL and look at page 94. Or if you have the QST CD roms go to the article by W1FB in Feb 1988 page 30. In figure 1 the transistors Q1 and Q4 are part of a transmitter keying and receiver muting circuit. I used this with some slight component changes. This is the Wes Hayward, W7ZOI, contribution to the setup.

For the PA output filter (you have been watching the PA output thread?) I used the one that I wrote up in QQ for the SPICE modeling series. Consists of 470pF, 1.0uH, 0.001uF, 1.0uH, and 470pF combo to give me 34 dB down on second harmonic as measured by Paul Harden, NA5N, right after the contest. Thanks Paul. Thanks to Dave Benson, NN1G, for use of this filter that I first saw in the original NE4040 rig.

I was measuring 250mW output on the MFJ-840 dummy load (used during the contest) and wattmeter combo. It is built for 144MHz, so there is no reactance at the HF freqs either and it reads a max of 5W. More in the article.

I took third place in the judging test. The plaques that NorCal gave out are works of art. Thanks gang.

What I did was build my combo Manhattan Style. I had built the NA5N Desert Ratt 3 the day before and was on a roll, so what the heck. I also used the Harbor Freight punch to make the pads and the shear/brake to make the case. And some \$0.98 per can enamel spray from Wal-Mart for the finish. Film at 11. It is the way to go gang.

Then it was after midnight before the room cleared out.

Next morning (Sat) the temp outside was mild so a stroll through the flea market. Now don't expect anything big here gang. You gotta remember that we are only a few miles from Livermore Research Labs where there is a monthly flea market that is better than most swap meets.

Then I made a mad dash over to the hangar for the commercial vendors to pick up the Elecraft K2 with options before they were all gone.

Then a day of listening to a great lineup of speakers. Already posted so I won't go into a long detailed posting. Dick Pascoe's treatise on the Past, Present, and Future of QRP was memorable. He is working on his Texas accent (he has the hat) and doing a fair job at it..... :-) But one side light on the talk. It is very important we preserve the history. The reason you are seeing more CD collections of SPRAT, The Milliwatter, QST, etc. Don't throw anything away.

Another great idea that they use in Europe. For any meeting, etc. everyone bring a QSL card and drop it into a box. This is a "sign-in" and record of attendees. Great for keeping records, etc. and it is fast and painless. And K7GT was the first to get the new and improved K7Q0 QSL... Ed, WE6W, was second.

Ask Jay Bromley, W5JAY, about the walk through the fleamarket after the talks.... :-) You had to be there.

Then everyone broke up for dinner. A large number of us walked across the street to the Peppermill Restaurant.

Then back for the show and tell and building contests. I was lucky enough to take first and second in the Manhattan Style contest. Yet another reason why they should have never let me lose to enter these things. :-) And all those years of judging at Pacificon, Dayton, etc. paid off. Seriously though, I want to thank Jim Kortge, K8IQY, for his work on the 2N22/40 and 2N22/6 projects. This work was an inspiration to me and others to go this route. Now Jim is working on a 15 meter version.

If it turns out that he has no time for the Elmer300 series then I'll see what I can do to get it going. Each of us has only 24 hours in a day and those with real talent for design and building have even less. We'll work out details as we go, so be patient. Dan Tayloe of the AZ sQRPion group at the previous month's meeting in Phoenix gave me some info on using the magnetic wire for interconnects and that helped me a lot. So, these two gentlemen I can credit with some ideas that helped me place in the contest. I assure you that I will document my work and pass it on. It is the only way for this group to grow and get others interested in doing it. Stay tuned.

Again, after midnight and the room cleared out when the hotel crew came in moving tables etc.

Like Cam I drove back down highway 5 through the haze and smoke from the fires to highway 58 and the east to Prescott. Again in two legs so as not to wind up in the ditch due to being tired. On Monday I did work an IN station on 10 meter sideband. :-) The noise level from the CA power lines has got to be the worst I've heard and I thought NM was the worst. :-)

It's good to be home again and the memories are treasures. Now if I can just finish wading through the 800+ emails. Stay tuned for some changes to QRP-L thanks to a few of you that refuse to follow proper procedures over the past six months or so. This was announced at Pacificon and I got nothing but positive feedback, so there will be a long posting later today. No posting on guesses or discussion prior to that please.

We realize that not everyone can make these things. It cost me over \$1,000 for the rigs and expenses for this trip, so they are not cheap. And if the thread is not dropped on the compendiums some people are going to be history. Do I make myself clear or is there a problem with using the English language for this group? Drop it Randy J. et. al. Enough.

Doug Hendricks, KI6DS, Jim Cates, WA6GER, and the multitude of others that went through haydes to assemble the cast of excellent speakers, get the room rates at a reasonable level, schedule the rooms and equipment, transportation for visitors, and thousands of other details, and catch a lot of grief from others via email are owed a standing ovation from each us for their hard work and dedication. I realize that it will take Doug a few days to recover, but thanks a lot Doug. A job well done.

He did fail to mention and I hope that I am not out of line here. I am Zombie #001. I have bought and will continue to support NorCal with purchase of kits, reprints, etc. It was the cap and toroid kit that helped me have some of the parts needed for the mods for the award winning rigs at Pacificon. But the most important thing of all and not brought up yet and I'll do it. After the banquet next door which was mentioned in earlier posts, some of the ARRL HQ and regional managers came into the room. Some of them were given Zombie badges and were proudly wearing them. Also the head of the FCC, Mr Hollingsworth, himself. They were impressed and were shown around to see what we were all doing having so much fun. This was Saturday night. Some of them mentioned to me that it looked like I was having fun Friday night on the chair and carrying on..... Be careful what you say and do people. It will come back to haunt you even before Halloween. :-)

Doug Hendricks, KI6DS, and the group and the other clubs have all worked many years and many long hard hours to make this a positive aspect of the hobby of amateur radio. We have made much progress. Let's not go and mess it up with some of the whining and complaining that I am seeing. Let it go gang. There was a significant rift in the fabric of the QRP world some time back over the move from 100W to 5W. No one has told me the story and I don't care to hear the details, but from the little that I know there are still people running around that have not fully recovered from that event or series of events. Remember that history can repeat itself and let's not be the group that sees it. OK? And we don't need a thread on it. I just bring it up as a gentle reminder that you have to treat any

human organization as an egg shell. It can break easily. Put the egos aside and just enjoy the ride.

FYI es dit dit

Chuck Adams K7Q0 K7Q0@hotmail.com <http://www.qsl.net/k7qo/>

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Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 18:16:02 -0700 (PDT)  
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>  
To: "Hendricks, Doug" <ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53584] Re: Special Zombie Pins for Operating Zombie Shuffle  
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.4.10.9910191811140.11549-100000@rotor.dri.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Wow!

Zombie Pins! Wheeeeeee!

I'm gonna earn mine. And it doesn't even cost \$5 like the ARRL SS pins!

Thanks Doug, Jim, NorCal and to Paul for making the lemonaid out of those lemons!

And to Jan for taking on all the work of scoring all the logs!

: -)

73, Ron, SOWP 5545M,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....  
....ku7y@dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada.....  
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

-----  
Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 21:17:13 EDT  
From: KF4EIB@aol.com  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53585] Steve Weber e-mail ?

Message-ID: <0.84d3a5dc.253e7219@aol.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang,

Looking for the e-mail address of the "Melt Solder " Guy kd1jv Steve Weber.

TNX,

Gordon kf4eib

-----  
Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 21:30:26 -0400  
From: mikemo@attglobal.net  
To: nilsbull@juno.com  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53586] Re: Loop antennas & loopy ideas  
Message-ID: <380D1B32.B866A48A@attglobal.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Nils,

I did a little "fiddling" with my small loop yesterday (good use for a vacation day). It is a shade less than 1 meter across, fed with another smaller loop on the opposite side of the tuning cap. I was having problems tuning on 15 meters, so I changed the shape of the primary loop to an oblong shape, close to the bottom of the loop. It seemed to make a marked improvement in the tuning.

I mounted it at ground level (the bottom of the loop was 5 cm off the dirt) and it tuned from 20 to 12 meters. Didn't seem to have enough capacitance to make 30 meters. Remote tuning would be nice as it is tough to manually tune a loop when you are by yourself. Turn the SWR meter facing the loop, push the tune button, run out into the yard, struggle to see the tiny SWR needle, twiddle the cap without getting an RF burn, run back inside and unkey before you fry the finals....

Seems to me that I was not getting out very well. Had one "almost" QSO. I remember reading in the book for the AEA IsoLoop that mounting small loops vertically near the ground was a bad idea. Well, I hooked up the ts-430 and went QRO (100 watts) and had no problems with contacts. Perhaps I'll try a horizontal mounting position next time.

Also, I'm not using a split stator capacitor, so I'm sure I've got a bit

of loss in the resistance of my rotor contacts. I drew up the plans to make a nice big split stator cap, but the cost of getting the stator and rotor plates custom machined was prohibitive. The cap would have cost \$200 (DOH!)

Well, the small loops are fun to experiment with. The next one I want to try is the one from QRPP with the neat little "flap" capacitor.

72 de KU4QO  
Mike Maiorana

Nils R Young wrote:

> I was poking around with the loop antenna project some more & discovered  
> that (a) the vertical seems to work better on receive and (b) I need to  
> put the feed point on the other side of the structural support parts from  
> the tuning capacitor.

-----  
Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 21:34:25 -0400  
From: mikemo@attglobal.net  
To: qrp1 <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [53587] FM power on ts-430  
Message-ID: <380D1C21.81FA571F@attglobal.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I got an FM board for my 430 and was "fiddling" this weekend. After playing with the knobs, then in desperation consulting the manual, I have not found a way to reduce the power out (GASP!). I wanted to do some qrp FM. Does anyone with this rig know if the FM power can be reduced? And yes, I did turn down the carrier control. No effect.

BTW, what's the deal with those FM repeaters? Seems like I was hitting 2 or 3 on the same frequency. Made for a nasty sounding output until all but one shut off..... 10 meters has been hot!  
Thanks for the help and 72 (I hope ;-)  
de KU4QO  
Mike Maiorana

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 01:40:24 GMT  
From: mwattcpa@earthlink.net (Marty Watt)  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53588] Off Topic?? -- Pacificon Compendiums  
Message-ID: <380f14f3.6277177@mail.earthlink.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

My two kopecks ...

No one but me determines if I attend the QRP gatherings or not. I deal with the consequences of my choices. I cannot blame my employer ... I always have the option of changing jobs. If I do not like the restrictions my employer or customer places on me, I can feel free to do other things. Perhaps I forego some compensation. I can give up my CPA job and load cargo planes at FedEx (and get free travel to the bay area to Pacificon to boot). Or I can work at WalMart stocking shelves and have my off hours to myself. Of course, I'll cut my base pay by 2/3rds, but that's the choice I have. Life isn't fair.

I dislike the notion that NorCal or QRP ARCI or MI QRP or the AZ ScQRPions is in any way obligated to me, or anyone else. The only thing they owe me is the unexpired portion of my journal subscriptions. NorCal (last time I checked) stands for Northern California. Should I expect a burger from the periodic NorCal gatherings because I can't be there? Can I win the lottery if I don't buy a ticket? If my neighbor has a garage sale, does that allow me the right to purchase their CD collection (which is not in the garage)?

The annual Memphis hamfest was cancelled this year ... no one wanted to organize it. Does the Delta Amateur Radio Club, of which I am not a member, still owe me a hamfest? I had planned to purchase a table and sell a bunch of stuff.

NorCal didn't offer the Compendium to the public. Please note that NorCal does not hold the copyright to any article published -- it can't, since NorCal

doesn't exist from the legal standpoint (it isn't incorporated, nor organized). The individual authors hold the copyright. You may, if you choose, get permission from each of the authors to duplicate their work = and publish the compendium on your own. That's the way things are done in = NorCal -- you want it, you do it. If you don't do it, don't complain that it = doesn't get done. That's why membership is free, there are no officers, no = by-laws, not a shred of organization.

I do not believe NorCal, or Pacificon, or anyone else owes me anything. Particularly when I decide to work in a particular field which may = restrict my activities. I have been on call, but I understood it was part of the = job. And whether or not I took the job (and the additional compensation that = went with it) was my choice. I could have stayed at my prior job and had = complete time freedom, for half the compensation. But either way, it was (and = remains) my choice as to my profession.

Just my two kopecks, as a nobody QRP appliance operator.

--  
Marty, N5NW

-----=  
-----  
Memphis, Tennessee =  
<http://home.earthlink.net/~mwattcpa>  
-----

Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 21:42:35 EDT  
From: n5ib@juno.com  
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53589] Fireball 40 - low output  
Message-ID: <19991019.203112.4687.0.N5IB@juno.com>

Just finished assembling a FB-40. I'm only getting a mW or less out (a bit over 1/2 V peak to peak across 50 ohms, as measured by 50 MHz scope - 10:1 probe)

Good 5 V supply out of regulator. There's about 3.5 V p-p out of the osc can, about 2 V p-p at C4, about 1 V p-p at C6, then about 1/2 V p-p at



the output. Signal looks clean on scope and sounds clean on nearby receiver. Good continuity through L1 and L2.

Has anyone noticed enough part-to-part variation on the 74LS74's to warrant getting some for a bunch of trial substitutions. I did socket them. I have a few old 7474 (straight TTL) parts also. C6 as supplied is a mylar cap (1000pF). Wonder if I should sub a ceramic.

I wanted to try milliwattting, not sure my psyche is up for darn near microwattting just yet :^)

72

Jim N5IB

---

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---

Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 01:47:16 GMT  
From: mwattcpa@earthlink.net (Marty Watt)  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53590] Re: PACIFICON: 1999 de K7Q0  
Message-ID: <38111e5f.8689887@mail.earthlink.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

On Tue, 19 Oct 1999 19:58:47 -0500, "Chuck Adams K7Q0" =  
<k7qo@primenet.com>  
wrote:

>We realize that not everyone can make these things. It cost me over  
>\$1,000 for the rigs and expenses for this trip, so they are not cheap. =  
And  
>if the thread is not dropped on the compendiums some people are going to  
>be history.

My post went out before I read this notice (I read mail offline, and downloaded this message while my outgoing post was being uploaded!).

Please excuse my post on the now-banned topic. I apologize to the group =  
...

--

Marty, N5NW

-----=  
-----  
Memphis, Tennessee =  
<http://home.earthlink.net/~mwattcpa>  
-----

Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 01:50:40 GMT  
From: mwattcpa@earthlink.net (Marty Watt)  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53591] Re: FM power on ts-430  
Message-ID: <38121f7a.8972467@mail.earthlink.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

On Tue, 19 Oct 1999 21:34:25 -0400, mikemo@attglobal.net wrote:

>I got an FM board for my 430 and was "fiddling" this weekend. After  
>playing with the knobs, then in desperation consulting the manual, I  
>have not found a way to reduce the power out (GASP!). I wanted to do  
>some qrp FM. Does anyone with this rig know if the FM power can be  
>reduced? And yes, I did turn down the carrier control. No effect.

I thought the FM power was automatically reduced, but it has been a few =  
years  
since I owned a 430. Will the "negative voltage to the ALC jack" trick =  
work  
on FM?

>BTW, what's the deal with those FM repeaters? Seems like I was hitting 2  
>or 3 on the same frequency. Made for a nasty sounding output until all  
>but one shut off..... 10 meters has been hot!

And you weren't hitting the ones with CTCSS tones! There are only 8 =  
repeater  
pairs on 10m ... makes for interesting conversation.

--  
Marty, N5NW  
-----=  
-----

-----  
Memphis, Tennessee =  
<http://home.earthlink.net/~mwattcpa>  
-----

Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 19:05:58 -0700  
From: "Mont Pierce, KM6WT" <km6wt@netzero.net>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53592] RE: Honest RST reports  
Message-ID: <LOBBJKJKCMAHICFDNKEJIECKCGAA.km6wt@netzero.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> From: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of  
> Chuck Adams, K7QO  
> Here is what I discovered in listening to the 144 minutes many times  
> in the 30 hours. You need the 599 or your call at the start of  
> an exchange. It is a "sync" needed by you in order to correctly  
> ...  
> Just consider the 599 report nothing other than a 'sync' sequence.  
> If you want an honest signal report, then you might consider not  
> doing contests and/or not working DX. This is not a critical  
> remark on my part. Consider the following --- what is the DX

I guess there are pros and cons on this. I can't say much, not  
being very active on contest, etc. but...

Maybe this is idealistic thinking and totally worthless, but...  
wouldn't it be interesting to take all the contests' data, pump it  
into a computer and analyze all the contacts, locations, and signal  
reports? I wonder how much we could learn about signal propagations.

I can see how desireable it is for contesters to attempt to make as  
many QSOs as they can, but I also cannot stop wondering how many  
failed attempts are reported as good contacts? I mean, all each  
side has to do is copy each other's callsign, assume the 599, and  
log it... Is this really a valid contact? Or is it sort of cheating?

I know already that I probably just stepped out of line, so I'd  
better shut-up now... I guess nothings perfect, huh.

Sorry in advance contesters,  
Mont, km6wt

-----

Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 21:14:17 -0500  
From: "Steve Yates, AA5TB" <aa5tb@swbell.net>  
To: mikemo@attglobal.net, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53593] Re: Loop antennas & loopy ideas

Message-ID: <009f01bf1aa0\$d0a929e0\$8937a497@aa5tb>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Mike,

In playing with small loops I also find the capacitor to be the most difficult part of the antenna to find or build. As you say a split stator capacitor is the ideal capacitor in that no RF current flows through any lossy brushes (for these antennas even a few milliohms makes a difference).

For QRP use I have found a simply but efficient substitute. Any old multi-section broadcast receiver capacitor will work well. Simply orientate the capacitor such that you can connect one stator to one side of the loop and another stator to the other side of the loop. The variable rotor will then be a common leg between two capacitors and no current will need to flow through the brushes. Since it is essentially two variable capacitors in series the capacitance will only be half of that of an individual section but then again the voltage will be divided amongst the capacitors as well. Electrically this is still a split stator capacitor but may be much easier to find than one designed to be such.

73,  
Steve Yates - AA5TB  
Fort Worth, TX - EM12gs  
<http://home.swbell.net/aa5tb>

-----  
Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 21:26:02 -0500  
From: "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>  
To: <km6wt@netzero.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53594] Re: Honest RST reports  
Message-ID: <007901bf1aa2\$7505c600\$05987b7b@CSS0048.bergenbrunswick.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Seems to me that we're gonna have testers looking for one thing. Contacts. And more contacts. Signal strength and signal quality are not part of the equation, I think. In that case, should the accuracy of so called "signal reports" be of much concern?

I think where signal reporting should really count is in "real QSOs". I'd

like to think, even in DX contacts. I realize though that often the line between DXing and contesting is quite blurred, especially with the more rare ones. At least in real - or I guess I should say day to day or casual contacts - we ought to try to make signal reports as meaningful as possible. Such reports let us and the other station know how well we're doing.

By the way, I'm not a tester, and my DXing is far more casual.

Dan WB5TKA

-----Original Message-----

From: Mont Pierce, KM6WT <km6wt@netzero.net>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Date: Tuesday, October 19, 1999 9:06 PM

Subject: RE: Honest RST reports

>

>I guess there are pros and cons on this. I can't say much, not  
>being very active on contest, etc. but...

>

>Maybe this is idealistic thinking and totally worthless, but...  
>wouldn't it be interesting to take all the contests' data, pump it  
>into a computer and analyze all the contacts, locations, and signal  
>reports? I wonder how much we could learn about signal propagations.

>

>Sorry in advance testers,

>Mont, km6wt

-----  
Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 19:53:10 PDT

From: "Bruce Prior" <n7rr@hotmail.com>

To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [53595] The GH Antenna Shorthand System

Message-ID: <19991020025311.2824.qmail@hotmail.com>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

The GH Antenna Shorthand System

GH is a coded system for transmitting a quick description of any terrestrial radio antenna, using only two digits. It is not intended for use with aircraft or spacecraft antennas.

-- The first digit denotes the maximum antenna forward Gain

measured in decibels relative to a half-wavelength dipole antenna.

-- The second digit represents the average Height above the ground or water surface rounded to the nearest quarter wavelength.

Hopefully this shorthand system will become a standard part of most QSO s and many contest exchanges, hopefully pushing aside stereotyped 599/59 signal reports. It will communicate useful antenna information very concisely. In a typical QSO, the operator of a station using a 6-element 20-m Yagi 66 feet high might transmit on phone: "The antenna here is Golf Hotel niner four," or on CW or RTTY, simply, "GH 94." That means that the antenna has a forward gain of about 9 dBd and is about 4 quarter-wavelengths above effective ground.

Forward Gain = G

The forward gain of amateur radio antennas can be measured most easily in decibels relative to a half-wavelength dipole (dBd). In order to obtain the widest variation of forward gain in practical antennas, the lowest digit in the G scale is 1 and the highest is 0:

G	dBd
1	1.49 or less
2	1.50-2.49
3	2.50-3.49
4	3.50-4.49
5	4.50-5.49
6	5.50-6.49
7	6.50-7.49
8	7.50-8.49
9	8.50-9.49
0	9.50 or more

Height of Antenna in Quarter-Wavelengths = H

Antenna height is the average Height measured in quarter wavelengths of the highest part of the antenna above the nearby effective ground, normally within a radius of ten wavelengths. For antennas aboard watercraft, the antenna height above the waterline is used. Here is the H scale:

H	# of 1/4 wavelengths
1	1.49 or less
2	1.50-2.49
3	2.50-3.49
4	3.50-4.49
5	4.50-5.49
6	5.50-6.49
7	6.50-7.49
8	7.50-8.49

9	8.50-9.49
0	9.50 or more

## Putting the GH Antenna Shorthand Together

Here are examples of GH:

half-wavelength 10-m inverted vee with an apex at 100 feet:  
10

An inverted vee has about the same gain as a straight dipole, so its gain digit is 1. 100 feet is approximately 3 wavelengths for the 10-m band, that is 12 quarter-wavelengths, so its height digit is designated 0 for 9.5 or more quarter wavelengths above effective ground.

15-m two-element cubical quad at 50 feet: 64

A two-element quad shows a bit more than 6 dBd forward gain, so the first digit is 6. Fifty feet is approximately 1 wavelength or 4 quarter-wavelengths for the 15-m band, so its height is labeled "4."

elevated 75-m four-square 1/4 vertical array at 120 feet:  
62

This array shows about 6 dBd gain. A height of 120 feet is approximately a half wavelength or two quarter wavelengths for the 75-m phone band, so its height is represented by "2."

ground-mounted quarter-wave ground plane: 11

A quarter-wave ground plane shows about a 0 dBd forward gain, and since the highest point of a ground-mounted quarter-wave ground plane is 1/4 wavelength high, its height digit is 1.

3-element full-length tri-band yagi at 66 feet  
for 20-m: 64  
for 15-m: 66  
for 10-m: 68

Multiband antennas function differently for each band, since their height above average ground measured in wavelengths differs for each band. The antenna shows approximately 6 dBd of forward gain on each band, but on 20, 15 and 10 meters, respectively, it sits about 4, 6 and 8 quarter wavelengths above effective ground.

This GH system is more than a convenient shorthand. When applied to contests, an agglomeration of this basic antenna information could be extremely valuable for detailed post-contest propagation analysis.

Bruce Prior, N7RR      853 Alder Street, Blaine, WA 98230-8030      (360)  
332-6046      n7rr@arrl.net

-----  
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-----

Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 21:42:24 -0600 (MDT)  
From: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53596] PacifiCon 99  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.9910192110570.29989-1000000@shell.rt66.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Gang,  
(Please delete if your filter didn't trap on PacifiCon, Compendium,  
super glue vapors or fun).

It's always fun attending any of the special QRP events, and always sad  
when you find yourself back at work so soon. PacifiCon went by in a flash  
it always seems.

It was great meeting so many QRPers ... the old faces (no names mentioned)  
and of course the 50+ new faces as well. Every talk was standing room  
only with 200+. And all the neat projects covering the gamut of  
construction techniques, from TT2's built in lunch boxes, hard hats,  
Manhattan style, to the classic, well, Tuna Can. And 30 of them QSO'd  
with K1MG friday night, the FoxMeister.

A few of my notable memories:

1. Dick Pascoe and his lovely new bride (of 30 years I think). Both are charming people. While at the "Outback" steakhouse, Dick's attempt at converting his British accent to Australian was a sight to behold!
2. Seeing Riley Hollingsworth (FCC Chief Enforcement Officer) enter the QRP building contest wearing a Zombie Badge!
3. Mike K1MG asked during his talk, who would be dumb enough to call a DX station on HIS frequency ... and Dr. Megacycle replied "those no-code extra's." Had the back of the room rolling on the floor.
4. Watching Chuck K7Q0 key his TT2 with one hand, and holding the end of the antenna with his other. You know that guy has a 20 foot wingspan?
5. Ed Loranger assembling his resonant speaker (20+ parts) in the middle of the sidewalk, totally oblivious to the 1000 people trying to get into the vendor building. (But it IS a work of art).
6. The ham who grabbed about 30 compendiums (I really can't remember who),



dashed from the room, and said he was gonna auction them on qrp-l and ebay. Incited a fair roar of the crowd.

7. Doug Hauff's new straight key - nice.

8. etc.

Yes, it's always an experience that combines all the seminars and technical stuff with the fun only QRPers can have. We know not all of you can attend these events, but for those who do, there MUST be a reason why they keep coming back, year after year. We hope you are one of them next year at one of the QRP events near year.

I appreciate all the hospitality expressed to us by everyone ... the local QRPers and those from afar. It's the nicest feeling to see the face of a QRPer ... that is, a friend, come walking down the hall towards you. A reminder of the fraternity we truly have.

Thanks for the great time to all. See you next year.

72, Paul NA5N

PacifiCon badge #004

Zombie badge #004

A coincidence? Only Jerry Parker knows for sure.

-----  
Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 22:50:03 -0500  
From: "Steve Yates, AA5TB" <aa5tb@swbell.net>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53597] Re: The GH Antenna Shorthand System  
Message-ID: <00dc01bf1aae\$31a08ba0\$8937a497@aa5tb>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Okay, it's not April so I'll bite.

I understand the intent of this "GH Antenna Shorthand System" and at first glance it seems like a beneficial addition to a QSO but I think this system would be very impractical. I find that the antenna information of another station is very useful but I believe a system such as this would have too much room for error to become a standard.

For example...

If one was using a 132 ft doublet on all bands how would you determine

quickly whether or not the station you were working was in a null or lobe? What if you were using an inverted-vee on the steep slope of a hill? Also, what if you don't know the gain of your antenna? I suppose antenna prediction codes could easily be incorporated in the contest software :-) The list of exceptions could go on for ever. If this sort of stuff wasn't taken into account the report would be as meaningless as a RST of 599.

I'm curious if this "GH Antenna Shorthand System" is used elsewhere and if so, where did it originate?

73,  
Steve Yates - AA5TB  
Fort Worth, TX - EM12gs  
<http://home.swbell.net/aa5tb>

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 00:20:29 -0500  
From: "George Heron" <n2apb@erols.com>  
To: <n5ib@juno.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53598] Re: Fireball 40 - low output  
Message-ID: <02f201bf1aba\$db8f3ce0\$b69aaccf@computer>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Jim -

The short answer is that you might see some stronger 'LS74 chips than others, and you could use 'AC74 chips for more power too. The output must be terminated in 50-ohms to get proper measurements, and perhaps better caps in the output LPF (low pass filter) would help. Power output from the stock FB40 tends to average in the 25-35mW range, with some ending up on the high end, while others are one the low end. And remember that you can utilize the pcb circuit traces for the integral/optional RF amplifier to give you about 1.5W output, even with a low-ended 5mW signal from the transmitter side of the board.

Here's a re-post of some "FB40 Application Notes" we did a while ago. There was some previous discussion about only being able to get low-mW levels from the stock FB40, and we collected most of the suggestions into one posting. Please let me know by email if you have any questions concerning

this. Here you go! ...

73, George N2APB

=====

#### FB40 Application Notes

=====

There have been real good responses from everyone building their "Jersey Fireball 40 QRPp Transmitters" (or FB40 for short) ... rigs are getting built on different bands, skeds are being attempted, etc. Our club elmers have been busy with responses to the various technical questions being posed on the lists lately. Here's a collection of notes that might help all you Fireballers:

1) LOW POWER & DC DECOUPLING -- In the original 'rev A' FB 40 kit, there is no dc decoupling for the oscillator or 74LS74 TTL divider chips to the output filter and antenna. This means that there is an average 2.5 volt dc signal connected between antenna and ground through the output filter. With simple dipoles or other antennas with no dc continuity this is not immediately a problem. But if folks use antennas with dc connections (like many multiband verticals) or a link-coupled tuner, the oscillator or divider section selected will see a dc short circuit. We doubt that there will be any damage, but the harmonic content may suffer or the chip may not produce the correct output. A simple fix would be to replace the BAND selection jumper with a 0.1 uF disc capacitor. With the optional amplifier in line there *is* dc isolation so this is not an issue. 'Rev B' of the kit includes a coupling cap for the band selection, thus eliminating this problem.

2) OUTPUT FILTER VALUES -- Some builders have questioned how we obtained the output filter component values for operation on the different bands. The computer program used is one called "L.exe - Low Pass / High Pass Filters, version 1.50", a Wes Hayward program supplied by the ARRL. This is a neat program that automates one of the standard filter calculations in the Handbook to provide all sorts of filters with varying parameters: Butterworth, Chebyshev, Elliptical, variable number of elements, cut-off frequencies, and maximum ripple values. In each case, we chose a 5-element Chebyshev low pass filter with 50-ohm input and output impedance, with 1 dB maximum ripple, and a cut-off frequency at the next higher megahertz value from where we were operating. [e.g., a cut-off frequency of 4 MHz was selected for the 80m filter, etc.] Shown below is a complete listing of the component values for each of the bands. (Note: We

had forgotten to list the 20m and 160m band components in the manual. And view the table with a proportional font like Courier to have the columns line up.)

	C4	L1	C6	L2	C5
160m	3400pF	4.3uH	4770pF	4.3uH	3397pF
80m	1700pF	2.2uH	2400pF	2.2uH	1700pF
40m	820pF	1.1uH	1000pF	1.1uH	820pF
20m	450pF	0.6uH	630pF	0.6uH	450pF
10m	230pF	0.3uH	330pF	0.3uH	230pF

4) FILTER CAP QUALITY AT 20m & 10m -- You might need better quality capacitors when attempting to build your output filters for the higher frequencies. At 14 MHz and 28 MHz, the inexpensive disc capacitors are quite lossy and results in a low Q filter. Try using some silver mica caps (or equivalent) and your output power at the higher frequencies might improve.

5) OUTPUT FILTER TYPE -- For the purists among us ... the manual states in a couple of places that the output filter is an "elliptical filter". We originally used this kind of filter in our prototypes but later found just as good results using a 5-element low pass filter. Thus we were able to do away with the extra capacitors in parallel with the inductors (which is the characteristic configuration for an elliptical filter).

6) TOROIDS -- Some questions had come up as to the turns calculation for the L1 and L2 inductors used in the output filter. The equation used in the manual is the standard one for determining the required number of turns around a specific type of toroid core:

$$N = 100 * \text{SQRT} (L_{\text{desired}} / AL)$$

This equation is stated in an excellent reference book: "The Electronic Data Book for Homebrewers and QRPers", by Paul Harden, NA5N (ISBN 0-913945-57-9), as well as in the ARRL Handbook (my 1996 version has it on page 6.25 ... check the index for "toroid" in other versions).

In order to accommodate the greatly varying core permeabilities at different frequencies of use, each core has an inductance index, or "AL". Thus looking up the T37-2 core used in the FB40, you'll find its AL = 40 uH per 100 turns.

So if we wanted the 1.1uH value for our filter inductor, the equation computes to:

$$N = 100 * \text{SQRT} (1.1 / 40) = 16.58$$

And since we can't have fractional windings with toroidal inductors, we rounded this to 16 Turns. Close enough!

7) YET MORE POWER -- One of the builders notes that by using "Advanced CMOS" TTL devices instead of the "Low-power Schottky" ones we used for U2 and U3 (74LS74), we could get effective power transfer from the chips. The AC devices provide an output impedance much closer to the 50-ohms that the output filter was designed for, thus providing a better match and more power to the antenna. If we can find these AC devices at a reasonable price, we may try using them in 'rev C' of the FB40 project.

Another recommendation: hopefully when power is measured you are terminating the antenna connection with a 50-ohm resistor. It's important, as the output impedance of the LPF was designed to be 50-ohms. Plop the resistor on (without an antenna), measure the voltage with a scope (or perhaps even a DVM at this frequency?), note the voltage and do the arithmetic. ( $P=V^2/R$ ) Don't forget about peak vs. peak-to-peak, and rms values, etc. This should get you accurate power readings.

Another aspect to consider (forgot when/where I wrote this) is that the oscillator can itself will put out about 40mW with the jumper set for the 10m position. This way you get all the energy from the can pumped into the LPF and out the antenna. And you can increase the supply voltage to the can up to about 6V (disconnect the TTL chips and the 78L05 regulator when doing this.)

8) 160M OPERATION -- An alert builder spotted another capability of the FB40: 160m operation! In the interest of time and board space, we decided not to use the second flip-flop gate in U3. If it were connected as in U2b, you could bring the 80m signal out to the unused 5th BAND jumper pads and get your 160m signal out! Note that the 160m filter component values are provided in the table above. Also, note that you'll have to use a higher oscillator frequency (e.g., above 28.800 MHz) in order to operate with the 160m amateur band when it's divided in half 4 times!

Okay, we hope these these technical tips will help you Fireballers in getting your rigs on the air. Remember that you can visit the Fireball website for a complete listing of all news, announcements and ordering information. We've placed the manual on the website, available for the viewing or download (includes schematic and parts layout). And we've recently added a step-by-step photographic documentation

section to help you compare your construction to that of a typical unit. The website is at <http://www.njqrp.org/fireball40/>

Hope you all enjoy this \$10 marvel! And hope to hear lots of Fireball40's on the air soon!

72,

-- George Heron, N2APB  
n2apb@amsat.org in Baltimore, MD  
for the NJ-QRP Club: <http://www.njqrp.org>

=====

-----Original Message-----

From: n5ib@juno.com <n5ib@juno.com>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Date: Tuesday, October 19, 1999 8:45 PM  
Subject: Fireball 40 - low output

>Just finished assembling a FB-40. I'm only getting a mW or less out (a  
>bit over 1/2 V peak to peak across 50 ohms, as measured by  
50 MHz scope -  
>10:1 probe)

>

>Good 5 V supply out of regulator. There's about 3.5 V p-p out of the osc

>can, about 2 V p-p at C4, about 1 V p-p at C6, then about 1/2 V p-p at

>the output. Signal looks clean on scope and sounds clean on nearby

>receiver. Good continuity through L1 and L2.

>

>Has anyone noticed enough part-to-part variation on the 74LS74's to

>warrant getting some for a bunch of trial substitutions. I did socket

>them. I have a few old 7474 (straight TTL) parts also. C6 as supplied is

>a mylar cap (1000pF). Wonder if I should sub a ceramic.

>

>I wanted to try milliwatting, not sure my psyche is up for darn near

>microwatting just yet :^)

>

>72

>Jim N5IB

-----  
Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 23:27:49 -0500  
From: randy cornelison <randyc@tsixroads.com>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53599] removal from list  
Message-ID: <380D44C5.A83E1A65@tsixroads.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Could someone please tell me what to do to get off this list. Tried several things to no avail. Thanks Randy K5UF

-----  
Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 21:44:34 -0700 (PDT)  
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>  
To: "Mont Pierce, KM6WT" <km6wt@netzero.net>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53600] RE: Honest RST reports  
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.4.10.9910192121540.12853-100000@rotor.dri.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Tue, 19 Oct 1999, Mont Pierce, KM6WT wrote:

> many QSOs as they can, but I also cannot stop wondering how many  
> failed attempts are reported as good contacts? I mean, all each  
> side has to do is copy each other's callsign, assume the 599, and  
> log it... Is this really a valid contact? Or is it sort of cheating?

Hi Mont,

I admit that I don't know all the exchanges for all the contests, but I don't know of any major ones that have only the RST as the exchange. Other information must be sent and recieved.

In the ARRL SS contest for example, you don't use the RST at all. There you have to send and recieve several bits of data....the other stations call sign, your call sign, serial number of the contact, the class of your station, the year you were first licensed

and your ARRL section. (I hope I remembered it all!). No way to just "guess" as to what is right!

Some have 5 letter code groups that you have to exchange. And on the other end of the scale are those that have only the RST and output power or serial number.

All the major contest sponsors now check all contacts to make sure that ALL of the exchange is copied. Any errors reduce your overall score so it's no longer smart to guess!

One reason that you can't change the data in the exchanges is that doing so will make all records useless. This is one of the main reasons the RST hasn't been replaced in several contests. Or so the rumors have it! (And I believe it).

Dennis, K7BV lives just up the road from me. He often goes off to DX stations to operate. He just came back from OH0 (OH zero). While at places like this his QSO rate will break 300 per hour while using CW.

Picking a call out of the howeling mass of the pile up that fast doesn't leave much time for thinking about just how the sig sounds! The fact that he got it lets you know that it must not be too bad!

I will often send a correct RST TO a DX operation that I know just to let them know what the local condx are. If he knows he is S9 plus 10 dB then he may well listen for only the west coast.

If he knows that he is only S3 (and he knows my station) then he might wait a bit before doing that.

So while sig reports are interesting and even important at times, there really isn't time for them during the high speed contests.

Now the ARCI contest this weekend is another matter....there I'd bet a cup of coffee that most of the reports will be at least close to right.

So when it's a fast paced operation you need not think much about that ENN or 5NN you get... :-)

OK, back in my hole.....

73, Ron,        SOWP 5545M,



.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....  
....ku7y@dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada.....  
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 00:52:59 -0400  
From: osier <osier@northnet.org>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [53601] WTB : Ten Tec Model 206 xtal calibrator  
Message-ID: <380D4AAB.17C1B18A@northnet.org>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello All !!!

Looking to buy a 206 if anyone has one ..... Need it badly for my  
509 !!!

Its nice to know where you are .....HIHI

Thanks es 73s

George , N2JNZ/QRP

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 01:08:37 -0400 (EDT)  
From: Bob Patten <n4bp@bc.seflin.org>  
To: "Mont Pierce, KM6WT" <km6wt@netzero.net>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53602] RE: Honest RST reports  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9910200146.A19079-01000000@bc.seflin.org>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Tue, 19 Oct 1999, Mont Pierce, KM6WT wrote:

> ...

> > Just consider the 599 report nothing other than a 'sync' sequence.

>

> failed attempts are reported as good contacts? I mean, all each  
> side has to do is copy each other's callsign, assume the 599, and  
> log it... Is this really a valid contact? Or is it sort of cheating?  
I have to agree with Chuck on this... In a contest, the idea is to  
maximize your score. Naturally this is done by making as many contacts  
as possible. In (almost) every contest, some legitimate data must be

exchanged which is not usually known ahead of time. Sweepstakes is a good example with several pieces of info exchanged. Admittedly, there are a few contests where all you need to do is copy a call and assume 599, but these are the exception...

73,

Bob Patten, N4BP ( 0 0 ) Plantation, FL

-----o00o-( )-o00-----

E-Mail: n4bp@bc.seflin.org

Web Page: <http://wg104a.wh.uni-stuttgart.de/~n4bp>

Brass Pounder BBS: (954) 472-7715

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 00:39:41 PDT  
From: "Leon Heller" <leon\_heller@hotmail.com>  
To: lha@sdr.utias.utoronto.ca, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [53603] Re: Let's get digital  
Message-ID: <19991020073942.48583.qmail@hotmail.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

>

>For those who might have wondered what such things look like,  
>there is a digital FM radio (i.e. 88-108 MHz) in the October issue  
>of Electronics World (U.K.). Except for a bit of preselection and  
>amplification, it connects the antenna to a very fast analog-to-digital  
>converter (Intersil [formerly Harris] HI5766), does a first processing  
>step of the resulting 50 MSPS data stream in an Intersil HSP50016  
>digital down converter, then does the final demodulation in an  
>ADSP-2181.

>

>You could, of course, sample directly to baseband. The reason for  
>the very high first sample rate is to cover the 20 MHz wide FM broadcast  
>band in one operation, and then select the station you want in the  
>DDC chip.

>

>I find such stuff exciting. Your mileage may vary... :-)

The chips are rather expensive - about UKP 100 - and the DDC is on a long lead time. I was quoted 7 weeks. ADI does similar chips and they are probably easier to get.

I was thinking of interfacing the front end to the 2181-based EZKIT.

73, Leon

Leon Heller, G1HSM  
Tel (work): +44 1327 357824  
Tel (mobile): +44 79 9098 1221  
Email:leon\_heller@hotmail.com  
Web page: <http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Code/1835>

-----  
Get Your Private, Free Email at <http://www.hotmail.com>

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 01:00:06 -0700  
From: "David Maliniak" <dmaliniak@penton.com>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53604] Any QRP-Lers at Wescon?  
Message-ID: <85256810.002C766D.00@mail2.penton.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Disposition: inline

If any of you happen to be attending the Wescon show tomorrow (OK, today) and Thursday at the San Jose Convention Center, please stop by and say hello... I'll be in and out of the Penton Media booth at #538.

72,  
David N2SMH  
temporary /6 in San Jose.

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 01:12:33 -0700  
From: "Yin Shih" <ylshih@alumni.caltech.edu>  
To: "QRP List" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [53605] Re: Pacificon Compendiums  
Message-ID: <002001b1ad2\$dd72b600\$165ffea9@ELNylshih>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

----- Original Message -----

From: Randy Jouett <rules@bellsouth.net>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 1999 1:32 AM

Subject: Re: Pacificon Compendiums

> My

> only problem is time. I have one of those jobs where I can't leave,

> Jay, because peoples' lives depend on my being around, and I've

> signed documents saying that I'll be an hour or two away at most.

So you made an informed choice to give up some personal freedom for what should be presumed to be good and sufficient compensation. Can't say that's much of an excuse for all the bitching.

Look there's a simple way to make sure you get a compendium for a QRP symposium in 2000 even if you have a 1 hour leash from your work location. Organize your own QRP gathering in the nearest conference center by your office. Still don't have the time? Don't have the people skills? Don't have the contacts? Don't have the knowledge? Then you don't get to complain.

Instead be thankful that there are people who do have those resources and donate willingly. You can get subscriptions to any or all of the club quarterlies that someone spent months writing and editing delivered to your home, you can get kits that someone has donated hundreds or thousands of hours to design and assemble delivered to your home and you can get QRP-L which has daily conversation, information and reviews delivered to your home. You have the option of getting 90% of what's out there, instead of 0%, delivered right to you for the cost of materials and handling or less - be thankful for what is there and stop whining about how selfish someone else is because they won't hand you that last 10% on a silver platter.

Do you think you could "pay" Doug and the presenters for the implicit work and value that you would receive with \$5 or \$10 to get a compendium printed and mailed to you? Try again - that barely covers the printing, handling and postage costs. But if they charged more, you or some others would be even quicker to label them "greedy".

The exact opposite is true, instead of QRPers paying them, they have chosen to "pay" QRPers to participate in this event by giving compendiums to the first 300 attending. As usual Norcal has worked out a scheme to give back to QRP on a large scale, its meetings have 300 door prizes instead of the usual few. But if you don't participate, you don't get "paid" - sounds fair to me.

Yin Shih, N9YS

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 02:29:34 -0600  
From: tom whalen <wb5qyt@eFortress.com>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53606] TT2 info  
Message-ID: <380D7D6D.49C3@eFortress.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

George,

Sent off for the TT2 today, but after reading your email I accidentally erased the sites for building info...Please send it again. Thanks!

Hope I get it built by the time Halloween rolls around!

72 and tnx, Tom WB5QYT

PS: If I was suppose to tell you what freq crystal I wanted I failed to do so.Would like the 7.040 rock.....

-----  
Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 20:41:13 -0500  
From: "Bob Helms" <af5z@inetport.com>  
To: <osier@northnet.org>  
Cc: "QRP-L Reflector" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [53607] Ten-Tec 206A Crystal Calibrator Modification  
Message-ID: <199910201023.FAA29044@admin.inetport.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi George and fellow QRPers,

I understand you may want a Model 206 or 206A as a collector to match your Argonaut. If you only wish to have a functioning unit to aid you in keeping the rigs dial calibrated there is an alternative. Buy

one of the VE3DNL Crystal Marker/Calibrator kits, put it in a box with the proper connectors and have fun! This is a superior unit as it has selectable 100, 50, 25 and 10 kHz outputs (if my memory serves me).

The Model 206 Ten-Tec Crystal Calibrator was sold as an accessory for the Argonaut transceiver models 505 and 509. It was a 100 kHz crystal oscillator that pulsed on and off about once a second so you could easily identify it in your receiver noise. It ran off +12-14 VDC at a few milliamps. The output of the oscillator was fed through a germanium diode to generate harmonics. A 'gimmick' coupling capacitor was used to feed the signal into the coax feedline going to the transceiver. This consisted of about 6 turns of insulated #24 AWG hook-up wire twisted around a 1" length of #18 AWG solid bare bus wire which was soldered between the center pins of the two RCA phono jacks on the rear panel of the unit. There was no actual connection between the oscillator output and the output jacks other than the few picofarads of capacitive coupling provided by the twisted wire arrangement.

The unit had a DPDT slide switch to switch it on and off and the three RCA phono jacks on the rear were labeled +12V, ANT and RCVR. The switch was wired as a SPST in the +12V line.

I've modified mine so that the switch connects the rig to either the antenna (when the calibrator is OFF) or to a dummy load I added inside the box (when the calibrator is ON). Separate the two poles of the switch so that one remains as a power switch for the calibrator and the second one switches the RF line to the transceiver between the antenna and a dummy load. So when I turn the calibrator ON, the antenna is removed from the transceiver so the calibrate signal is the only signal left on the band. I can also adjust the tuning and drive levels of the transmitter since it is terminated in a 50 ohm non-reactive resistor. I made the dummy load from two 100 ohm, two watt composition resistors wired in parallel from the switch to ground.

Crystal calibrator circuits are also found in most ARRL Handbooks and many older receiver designs where analog dials were the order of the day.

Good luck,

Bob Helms, AF5Z  
af5z@inetport.com

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 04:45:59 -0600  
From: "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>  
To: <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [53608] Trade  
Message-ID: <199910201043.EAA26404@srv.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Will trade a Bushnell Spacemaster 2 spotting scope with 15X to 45X zoom lens plus a 22X wide angle lens, tripod and case in like new condition for a MFJ 9040 or 9020 with cw filter reply direct Colcal@srv.net or 208 357 7431 Thanks for the BW 72 Cal KF7ET

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 06:53:46 +0000  
From: Michael Neverdosky <mneverdosky@earthlink.net>  
To: qrp-l mailing list <qrp-l@Lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [53609] Re: Honest RST reports  
Message-ID: <380D58EA.2771CC24@earthlink.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Monte Stark wrote:

> So while sig reports are interesting and even important at  
> times, there really isn't time for them during the high speed  
> contests.

If there isn't time to actually send a real RST then it should be removed from the contest exchange. RST is readability, strength and tone if you cannot send or copy a real RST then you are not doing a proper contact.

Now if the contest organizers want to have a 'sync' bit of 599 or 5NN as part of the exchange that is fine. I wish they would call it something other than RST. Calling it RST implies the exchange of actual information and anything that is always the same and can be assumed everytime is bnot the exchange of information.

I am really arguing semantics but I still think if you are going to call it RST it should be a real, honest RST. If it is just an arbitrary 'sync' bit then say so.

michael N6CHV

-----  
Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 20:43:06 -0400  
From: Henry Freedenberg <henryf@quartz.gly.fsu.edu>  
To: rattray@gpfn.sk.ca  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53610] Re: He shall be missed  
Message-ID: <380D1018.2BA9FE97@quartz.gly.fsu.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Back during my salad days in NYC (I was 15 and this was before incentive licensing took hold and before 2M became popular) there was a large group of locals that would hang out on 21350. Typically we would start up abt 8pm and go on until 12:30 or 1 the next morning. Anyway, sometime around the beginning of 1968 we were sitting around chatting one evening when K20RS came up on freq. He broke into the group, said that he was showing the rig off for a friend and was xmitting from his apt in the village. We all had a very pleasant chat. His personality seemed to match his on the air persona. It was a very pleasant evening that I have fond memories of, He never came back. Guess we must have scared him off

Henry

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 09:04:02 -0400  
From: "Jerry Henshaw" <jhenshaw@bellsouth.net>  
To: "QRP-L Post" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, "Jim Kortge" <k8iqy@qsl.net>  
Subject: [53611] 2N2/40 Sidetone Level  
Message-ID: <001c01bf1afb\$9a2e43e0\$50d94dd8@jhenshaw.bellsouth.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
          charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang,



I'm still waiting for my first 2N2/40 QSO. I found a problem with my TX L0 this morning.... I was transmitting about 200 kHz too high in frequency!!! I had mounted inductor L4 "hairpin" style across TC6 ... result was the longer leads on L4 acted like an antenna and really skewed the transmit frequency! I simply mounted L4 close to the PC substrate.... now I am dead on frequency.

I will probably have a better chance for a QSO now... I was REALLY working split mode yesterday. The moral of this story KEEP THE LEADS SHORT IN OSCILLATOR CIRCUITS --- Electronics 101. : -)

Jim had mentioned a mod to decrease the audio on the sidetone during transmit.... does anyone have the mod. Jim offered it to me over the phone the other day but at that time I wasn't to the point where I thought I needed it. BTW, I am using the new RX mute circuit as posted on Jim's webpage.

Listen for me on 7.0404 +- QRM.

72's and keep the solder fumes aloft.

Jerry Henshaw  
KR5L

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 08:31:37 -0600  
From: Bruce Kizerian <kizerian@ced.utah.edu>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [53612] The Electronics of Radio  
Message-ID: <380DD249.305578E8@ced.utah.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Received a copy of The Electronics of Radio by David B. Rutledge, yesterday. This book is an educator's dream. Well written and very thorough, I can recommend it without reservation to anyone who wants a detailed intro to radio. Knowing math, at least to the basic algebra level, will help, but you will be able to glean a ton of useful information without it. And, if you buy a NC-40A from Wilderness, you can build as you learn.

This is a introductory college text, so it might be a bit much if you are new to radio theory. In that case, the Elmer 101 course, also excellent, might be more appropriate.

Subjects covered include components, phasors, amplifiers (RF and AF), transmission lines, acoustics, oscillators, antennas and propagation, and much more. The amount of subject matter covered is quite amazing.

Check it out, if you can. I don't think you will be disappointed.

Bruce kk7zz

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 09:41:22 -0500  
From: Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>  
To: mneverdosky@earthlink.net  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53613] Re: Honest RST reports  
Message-ID: <380DD492.BB36D2A4@swbell.net>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Michael Neverdosky wrote:

>  
> If there isn't time to actually send a real RST then it should be  
> removed  
> from the contest exchange. RST is readability, strength and tone  
> if you cannot send or copy a real RST then you are not doing a proper  
> contact.

Who says they cant copy it? Maybe you cant but I would say most  
contesters would have more trouble typing in 339 in their computer log  
than copying the exchange. Besides, they would lose maybe a half second  
or more trying to figure out what rst to give and then another half  
second trying to find the right keys. and then what do they do if they  
hit 569 when they really meant 579? Do they have to go back and  
retransmit the whole report? Talk about the confusion that would cause.

I guarantee that one of the best ways to end up "not in log" is to send  
an "honest" 359 rst when the station you are working is making several

hundred contacts an hour. Unless you're a new multiplier, its so much easier to "TU QRZ TEST" than to get aggravated over some one breaking your focus and slowing you down when the jerk isnt even gonig to turn in his log. Same thing for the station that wants a repeat on his rst when that is the only thing he is missing.

> Now if the contest organizers want to have a 'sync' bit of 599 or 5NN as  
> part of the exchange that is fine. I wish they would call it something  
> other than RST.  
> Calling it RST implies the exchange of actual information and anything  
> that  
> is always the same and can be assumed everytime is bnot the exchange of  
> information.

If you dont like the rules, dont participate in contests. No one is forcing you to participate. Besides, the rules arent written for the dabblers.

I dont know what you mean by a true, honest RST. Take 100 members off QRP-L and have them listen to the same signal from the same location at the same time and I doubt you could get even 30% agreement on other than a 599 report. RST reports are human symbols, they are not reality.

Personally, 90% or more of the RST reports I give are either 5NN or 559. For most purposes that is more than satisfactory to let the other guy know how he is doing. On ragchews or if someone is truly interested I will give them a "MORE ACCURATE" report. Most people could care less what RST they get as long as they are in the log. If the dx can copy them well enough to get their call right out of all the stations calling, then you are being heard at least as well as most others.

73 de Dave, N0IT

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 10:50:38 EDT  
From: Robsparks@aol.com  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53614] AR QRP 40m Net Tonight  
Message-ID: <0.92eb3e.253f30be@aol.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

AR-QRP 40 m Net Wednesday Night

The AR-QRP 40 m net is tonight, Wednesday, at 0030Z (7:30 CDT) at 7.042 MHz. Bob, AB5ZD is NCS and will be calling "QST AR QRP NET de NQ5RP PSE QNI". At

that time, please send your full call (or a letter!). When I copy you, I will return your call and AS (stand by) while more call in. When I have everyone's call, I will start at the top and go down the list for reports and comments. If you are building a rig or trying a new antenna, tell us about it! Everyone is interested in your power, so be certain to send that! However, try to keep it short, particularly if there are a lot of QNIs on the list. This is a fun and informal net, and is a low hassle way to learn how to check into a net. You don't need to be a member of the AR-QRP Club to check in. Don't feel comfortable checking in? Just "copy the mail" and improve your CW skills! We welcome volunteer NCSs and new check-ins!

72,

Bob AB5ZD

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 14:54:02 +0100  
From: "Steve Sorrell" <ap036@detroit.freenet.org>  
To: <mneverdosky@earthlink.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53615] Re: Honest RST reports  
Message-ID: <002901bf1b02\$9242d040\$d542b3c7@sorrells>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thats it, into the filter for this one, AGAIN!  
de Steve, W8SFF

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 08:24:14 -0700 (PDT)  
From: Dave Pomeroy <dave\_pomeroy@yahoo.com>  
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53616] Tek plugin pages  
Message-ID: <19991020152414.19211.rocketmail@web601.yahoomail.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Someone posted a message with a couple of URL's for Tek plugin descriptions. I fixin to pick up a 7603 and want to investigate the situation. Can you repost the URL's? Thanks for your time.  
Dave Pomeroy KL0TE/8

=====

-----  
Do You Yahoo!?  
Bid and sell for free at <http://auctions.yahoo.com>

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 10:48:25 -0500  
From: Roy Crosier <crosier@toto.net>  
To: mikemo@attglobal.net  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53617] Re: FM power on ts-430  
Message-ID: <380DE448.FD98C64E@toto.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I owned a TS-670 and the power was controllable on every mode except FM, if my memory serves me correctly. I really wish that more people were interested in QRP-FM on 10 and 6--or any band for that matter. I don't even believe that QRP has been defined for FM--I would think that it should be 5 watts since it is a constant power signal as CW is, but since it is voice I suppose that some would place it at 10 watts.  
Roy Crosier KE0UQ

mikemo@attglobal.net wrote:

> I got an FM board for my 430 and was "fiddling" this weekend. After  
> playing with the knobs, then in desperation consulting the manual, I  
> have not found a way to reduce the power out (GASP!). I wanted to do  
> some qrp FM. Does anyone with this rig know if the FM power can be  
> reduced? And yes, I did turn down the carrier control. No effect.  
>  
> BTW, what's the deal with those FM repeaters? Seems like I was hitting 2  
> or 3 on the same frequency. Made for a nasty sounding output until all  
> but one shut off..... 10 meters has been hot!  
> Thanks for the help and 72 (I hope ;-)  
> de KU4QO  
> Mike Maiorana

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 08:46:20 -0700  
From: Tayloe Dan-P26412 <Dan\_Tayloe-P26412@email.mot.com>

To: "'dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu'" <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>, "'qrp1'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53618] Re: QRP HV supply?  
Message-ID: <87568F78ABDCD211A0AC0008C707718B31951E@az10exm03.sat.mot.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"

Dave:

Why reinvent the wheel? There are many 12v-120v inverters on the market. Fry's electronics has a 150w version on sale every once in a while for \$19 to \$29. It looks very much like the one Radio Shack sells for about \$80.

Take the output and use as is into a rectifier/filter combination and get about 170v.

Good Luck!

- Dan Tayloe, N7VE; Phoenix, Az; Az ScQRPions

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 08:48:21 -0700 (PDT)  
From: Christian Void <cvoid@netcom.com>  
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53619] Re: Pacificon Compendiums  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9910200834.A233-01000000@netcom11.netcom.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Wed, 20 Oct 1999, Yin Shih wrote:

> So you made an informed choice to give up some personal freedom for what  
> should be presumed to be good and sufficient compensation. Can't say that's  
> much of an excuse for all the bitching.

that is a pretty elitist attitude.

(for anyone who doesn't understand or doesn't appreciate the above, just want to let you know that it was about 15 lines of sociopolitical diatribe that i ctrl-k'd away in respect for the list \*grin\*)

it's all about community here. maybe it is difficult for people to get to pacificon. maybe people want the knowledge from the compedium. the least someone can do is release the soft copies of it (i.e. the files used to

make the compendium) and then people can download and print thier own copies.

for that matter, give \_me\_ the files and i will print copies for anyone who wants one at cost. how's that?

bring it on. information wants to be free.

-----  
Date: Tue, 19 Oct 1999 10:58:13 -0500  
From: Clifton W Sikes <ab5uacw@juno.com>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Subject: [53620] WTB: Combo Straight key/Paddle  
Message-ID: <19991019.105814.6742.0.ab5uacw@juno.com>

Howdy,

I would like to buy a Brown Bros. combo straight key/paddle ( I can dream, can't I ) , and/or a HamKey combo Straight key/paddle.

Thanks.

Clif AB5UA

-----  
Get the Internet just the way you want it.  
Free software, free e-mail, and free Internet access for a month!  
Try Juno Web: <http://dl.www.juno.com/dynoget/tagj>.

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 09:02:25 -0700 (PDT)  
From: Jeff <fantbb@yahoo.com>  
To: qrp qrp <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [53621] Nice gell cell charger from Walmart  
Message-ID: <19991020160225.10830.rocketmail@web122.yahoomail.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

I was in Walmart the other day and picked up a nice little charger for \$25. It will charge and then float the cells.  
Just used it to charge one of my cells. I did notice that it charges it up to 12.5 volts and then floats it from there.  
Seem to remember they shold measure out at 13 volts or there abouts after charging. That got me

wondering. What's others think about that?

73!

Jeff

=====

Jeff Jones  
AB6MB  
NorCal QRP Club #65, QRP-L #1780  
CW Forever!!!  
Ghost Hunter  
Owner of the Delta MudCats fantasy baseball team  
Voicemail/Fax 1-888-Excite2 ext 925-439-2514

-----  
Do You Yahoo!?  
Bid and sell for free at <http://auctions.yahoo.com>

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 11:20:26 -0500  
From: "Kevin Muenzler WB5RUE" <wb5rue@stic.net>  
To: <fantbb@yahoo.com>, "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53622] RE: Nice gell cell charger from Walmart  
Message-ID: <000001bf1b17\$0548fb50\$ef5d6f81@uthscsa.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
    charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Be sure it DOES NOT charge faster than 1/10th the amp-hour of the cell,  
1/20th would be even better. I have a float-charger for my lawn tractor  
that I got from Wal-Mart for about \$25. It charges at up to 1.5 amps which  
would COOK most moderately sized gell-cell batteries. So unless you have a  
bit honking gell-cell (15 + amp hrs) don't use such a charger.

73

Kevin, WB5RUE

Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of the rain-dance.

> -----Original Message-----  
> From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
> [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU]On Behalf Of  
> Jeff



> Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 1999 11:02 AM  
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion  
> Subject: Nice gell cell charger from Walmart  
>  
>  
> I was in Walmart the other day and picked up a  
> nice little charger for \$25. It will charge and  
> then float the cells.  
> Just used it to charge one of my cells. I did  
> notice that it charges it up to 12.5 volts and  
> then floats it from there.  
> Seem to remember they shold measure out at 13  
> volts or thereabouts after charging. That got me  
> wondering. What's others think about that?  
>  
> 73!  
>  
> Jeff  
>  
>  
> =====  
> Jeff Jones  
> AB6MB  
> NorCal QRP Club #65, QRP-L #1780  
> CW Forever!!!  
> Ghost Hunter  
> Owner of the Delta MudCats fantasy baseball team  
> Voicemail/Fax 1-888-Excite2 ext 925-439-2514  
> -----  
> Do You Yahoo!?  
> Bid and sell for free at <http://auctions.yahoo.com>  
>

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 11:22:43 -0500  
From: Michael Melland <badger@vbe.com>  
To: dave\_pomeroy@yahoo.com  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53623] Re: Tek plugin pages  
Message-ID: <380DEC53.CC109E89@vbe.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dave Pomeroy wrote:

> Someone posted a message with a couple of URL's for  
> Tek plugin descriptions

Dave,

Here ya go.....

<http://www.caip.rutgers.edu/~kahrs/testeq/7000.html>

<http://www.tek.com:80/Measurement/Support/faq/7kfaq.html>

Have fun with the scope..... it's a winner !

73

--

Michael Melland, W9WIS  
Winneconne, Wisconsin, USA  
FISTS #4387, 10-10 #69281, QRP-L #1656,  
QRP-ARCI #9875, AK/QRP #478, NorCal  
CW, SSB, and Electronics  
List Administrator: [grundig@qth.net](mailto:grundig@qth.net)  
<http://www.qsl.net/w9wis>

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 09:36:01 -0700  
From: "Phinizy, William" <[wphinizy@filenet.com](mailto:wphinizy@filenet.com)>  
To: "'QRP-l List Server'" <[qrp-l@Lehigh.edu](mailto:qrp-l@Lehigh.edu)>  
Subject: [53624] FS: Unbuilt OHR Kits  
Message-ID: <C3AF5E329E21D2119C4C00805F6FF58F01DE053F@hq-expo2.filenet.com>

..I know, I know, kinda redundant..

I am cleaning out the "production" queue and have the following for sale:

- (1) OHR-100A for 30 meters....\$100 + shipping
- (2) OHR-100 for 20 meters...\$80 + shipping

Shipping will be from Southern California. Note that the 20 meter kit is an OHR-100 not a 100A.

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 13:08:20 -0400  
From: "Mike Yetsko" <[myetsko@insydesw.com](mailto:myetsko@insydesw.com)>

To: <wb5rue@stic.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53625] Re: Nice gell cell charger from Walmart  
Message-ID: <000d01bf1b1d\$cf688bc0\$9001a8c0@wn.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hmm, wonder what is in the charger? I have some 17AH gel-cells, and I was about to just take an old 1amp 12vac transformer to build a charger with an LM317 set as a voltage reference. Let it charge through a small lamp to limit surge, and then sit at say 12.8 when it's done (with a series diode, just in case the power goes off for a long time). The idea was to have a battery under the table with the charger always on it to keep it 'topped off'.

Mike Yetsko  
N1DVJ

> Be sure it DOES NOT charge faster than 1/10th the amp-hour of the cell,  
> 1/20th would be even better. I have a float-charger for my lawn tractor  
> that I got from Wal-Mart for about \$25. It charges at up to 1.5 amps which  
> would COOK most moderately sized gell-cell batteries. So unless you have a  
> bit honking gell-cell (15 + amp hrs) don't use such a charger.  
>  
> 73  
>  
> Kevin, WB5RUE  
>  
> Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of the rain-dance.  
>  
>  
> > -----Original Message-----  
> > From: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU  
> > [mailto:owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU]On Behalf Of  
> > Jeff  
> > Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 1999 11:02 AM  
> > To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion  
> > Subject: Nice gell cell charger from Walmart  
> >  
> >  
> > I was in Walmart the other day and picked up a  
> > nice little charger for \$25. It will charge and

> > then float the cells.  
> > Just used it to charge one of my cells. I did  
> > notice that it charges it up to 12.5 volts and  
> > then floats it from there.  
> > Seem to remember they should measure out at 13  
> > volts or thereabouts after charging. That got me  
> > wondering. What's others think about that?  
> >  
> > 73!  
> >  
> > Jeff  
> >  
> >  
> > =====  
> > Jeff Jones  
> > AB6MB  
> > NorCal QRP Club #65, QRP-L #1780  
> > CW Forever!!!  
> > Ghost Hunter  
> > Owner of the Delta MudCats fantasy baseball team  
> > Voicemail/Fax 1-888-Excite2 ext 925-439-2514  
> > -----  
> > Do You Yahoo!?  
> > Bid and sell for free at <http://auctions.yahoo.com>  
> >  
>  
>

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 09:58:37 -0700  
From: Mike Gipe <[mgipe@reliablemeters.com](mailto:mgipe@reliablemeters.com)>  
To: "QRP-L list (E-mail)" <[qrp-l@Lehigh.edu](mailto:qrp-l@Lehigh.edu)>  
Subject: [53626] Pacificon: Foxhunt log, 15 Oct  
Message-ID: <F988E2FF74F4D111A61F00A0C949D7A90BB97E@mission>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"

Hounds --

Here is the log for the Pacificon special TT2 foxhunt.

Notes:

1. If the state, name, or number is left blank, the hound did not send it.  
We assumed everyone knew the proper exchange, but this was not the case, and

fills are difficult to get from someone who has tossed off the headphones and is jumping around the room doing the happy dance. After Doug announced the exchange, the hounds were more thorough, and Randy and Mike went to the trouble to repeat the QSO later with the full exchange. Given the confusion, it is only fair to count ALL the QSOs.

2. QSO number 5 is clearly a SLIM (pirate). Upon hearing the callsign, I was perplexed, because I knew that Doug Hauff had not yet arrived and was unlikely to be holding a QSO while riding his motorcycle up Interstate 5 in the dark. I believe, however, that I know who was pirating his call, and that is the real reason that Riley Hollingsworth stopped by on Saturday. I was able to convince him to let this one slide, but you know who you are, and you owe me a free dinner (and you can't get the senior discount on this one!)

3. Where the QRP-L number is listed as "?", that is just what the hound sent.

4. Please note my RST on QSO number 22. Some people just can't make a proper estimate of received signal strength, even when using a rig built into a video cassette housing. ;-) Now you know why the signal report for most contests is "599".

5. Errors are all mine. I won't bother to correct log transcription errors unless you really, really, really have to see it right. It's just for fun, guys.

Date: 15-Oct-99 Frequency: 7.042 MHz  
CA Mike 614

#	TIME	CALL	SENT	RCVD	STATE	NAME	NR
1	0315	K6MW	559				
2	0316	K7TQ	599	599			
3	0320	WA6OWR	599	599			
4	0322	K7GT	559	579	CA	ALLAN	1016
5	0323	KE6RIE	599	579			SLIM!
6	0325	W6ABC	599	599	CA	JACK	0
7	0326	AC6UV	579	599	CA	GODY	1881
8	0327	KA5T	579	339	CA	LARRY	89
9	0329	K7QO	599	559	CA	CHUCK	1
10	0330	KE6RS	599	579	CA	RON	1786
11	0331	AC6AN	559	599	CA	ORI	DUNNO
12	0333	WB6TNL	579	599	CA	STEVE	662
13	0335	K6MW	599	599	CA	MIKE	?
14	0336	KI7MN	579	599	CA	BOB	271
15	0337	AD6A	599	449	CA	DAVE	92
16	0339	W6EMD	599	569	CA	DAVE	FORGOT

17	0341	KI6DS	559	599	CA	DOUGIE	0
18	0342	AC6KW	599	559	CA	JEFF	16
19	0343	KU7Y	559	559	CA	RON	17
20	0344	NA6E	599	599	CA	MARY	1779
21	0346	W5JAY	599	599	CA	JAY	1201
22	0348	KF6ML	559	009	CA	SAM	?
23	0350	AB5PC	559	599	CA	DAVE	500
24	0351	W5VB0	599	599	CA	BRIAN	404
25	0352	K7TQ	599	599	ID	RANDY	102
26	0353	WI60	599	599	CA	JOHN	NONE
27	0356	KI0KY	599	599	CA	STEVE	03
28	0357	WD6BOR	599	599	CA	DARREL	65
29	0359	N6WG	569	339	CA	BOB	26
30	0401	N2CX	599	599	CA	JOE	707
31	0409	W6ZH	599	599	CA	PETE	259
32	0410	W6SU	599	599	CA	JOHN	48
33	0420	N4FNO	599	599	CA	DAVE	
34	0424	KB6FPW	599	599	CA	MITCH	10177

-----

Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 13:22:07 -0400 (EDT)  
 From: Chris Cartwright Sr <ccart@phideaux.com>  
 To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
 Subject: [53627] Re: Pacificon: Foxhunt log, 15 Oct (fwd)  
 Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.04.9910201321150.30963-1000000@dns.phideaux.com>  
 MIME-Version: 1.0  
 Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Wed, 20 Oct 1999, Mike Gipe wrote:

```
> 23 0350 AB5PC      559 599 CA   DAVE 500
> 24 0351 W5VB0      599 599 CA   BRIAN 404
> 25 0352 K7TQ 599 599 ID   RANDY 102
```

Looks like CA has got the jump on TX for the state vs. state fox scores, with ID a close second :) C'mon fox season! Looks like I'll be doing most of my hunting /M this year, but that may be an advantage... Less than a week to wait gang.

72

```
-- Chris Cartwright, Technical Engineer | ccart@phideaux.com --
-- N3XRV ARRL-VE Norcal Zombie #163 | Gaithersburg, MD FM19je --
-- MDmW #5 NJ-QRP #105 QRP-L #655 NORCAL #1891 FISTS #5028 QRP-ARCI #9271 --
```

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 07:58:16 -1000  
From: "Art Neilson, AH6PZ" <art@hawaii.rr.com>  
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53628] window vs ladder line  
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.19991020075816.008c9e80@clients1.hawaii.rr.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Picked up some 450 ohm window line however have heard that true open ladder line is even less lossy than window line. Is there any compelling reason to use true ladder line as opposed to window line as a feeder?

Also understand that most balanced tuners use a 4:1 balun to drop the impedance to a tunable level. Are true balanced tuners available here in America, I heard Europe uses them quite a bit.

73's, de AH6PZ Art.

--  
/\*  
\*    /  \_\_        \_/\_    It is a capital mistake to theorise before one has data.  
\*   /--/ \_\_    /       Insensibly one begins to twist facts to suit theories,  
\*   / (\_/ (\_<\_\_    Instead of theories to suit facts.  
\*                        -- Sherlock Holmes, "A Scandal in Bohemia"  
\* Arthur W. Neilson III, AH6PZ  
\* Bank of Hawaii Tech Support  
\* art@hawaii.rr.com  
\*/

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 14:10:45 -0400  
From: "Hugo Catta" <h.catta@worldnet.att.net>  
To: <fantbb@yahoo.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53629] Re: Nice gell cell charger from Walmart  
Message-ID: <008501bf1b26\$6f11adc0\$9d8a173f@compaq>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
          charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Jeff:

A gel-cell battery needs higher voltages than those to achieve full charge. My UC3909 based charger bulk charges, (current is limited to about 1/8th of battery capacity by series resistor ), up to 14.4 and then trickles (few mAmps), at 13.8V.

This agrees with the manufacturers recommendations.

Are you sure the battery says "for acid batteries"?

Or it may be for nicads which need constant current type of charge.

Once the battery is disconnected and "rested" for a few hours, the voltage of a fully charged gel-cell 12v nominal battery, should stay around 12.7 ~ 13.0 volts

72, 73

Hugo

CX9AAK/W2

....snip.....

Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 1999 12:02 PM

Subject: Nice gel cell charger from Walmart

> I was in Walmart the other day and picked up a  
> nice little charger for \$25. It will charge and  
> then float the cells.  
> Just used it to charge one of my cells. I did  
> notice that it charges it up to 12.5 volts and  
> then floats it from there.  
> Seem to remember they should measure out at 13  
> volts or thereabouts after charging. That got me  
> wondering. What's others think about that?

>

> 73!

>

> Jeff

>

>

> =====

> Jeff Jones

....snip.....

> Bid and sell for free at <http://auctions.yahoo.com>

-----



Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 14:14:56 EDT  
From: N9DD@aol.com  
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53630] Which rig to build series?  
Message-ID: <0.c448d6ee.253f60a0@aol.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi gang,

A local ham, who I've known for years, has been doing a lot of reading about QRP lately. He tells me he is ready to build a QRP rig. I've been hounding him for years about QRP, so I knew it would eventually get to him.

Doug KI6DS did a wonderful series back a month or two ago on the subject. I know there is no way I could improve on Doug's great work, so I'd like to point my buddy to a web site, or get a copy of the series to send him. Did anyone save the whole set?

Thanks and 72,

Tom N9DD  
South Bend, IN  
N9DD@aol.com

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 11:19:29 -0700  
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>  
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53631] Just Do it.  
Message-ID: <380E07B1.CE6EFA73@qsl.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

i've been selling QRP and Ham radio to Chuck here at work for about 1 month now. Today he says maybe in 90 days he'll get started...

I bulldozed thru and now have him running to HSC at lunch today to pick up a code tape and Novice book. Why wait?

He's going to read my biography on qrz.com where I have the qrp-1 link embedded so that is easy for him to find.

Told him my call is We 6 Watts, we6w, easy to remember so now he's got that committed to memory.

Looks like I'll be up in the novice bands sending code practice again. Fun.

On a humorous note, I picked up my favorite. A 2-3/4 pound bag of peanut M&M's so I could freak out our secretary by filling up her candy jar. Wouldn't you know it, she's got the thing all full now and I've gotta eat this stuff all by myself...

All part of the Zombie Shuffle preparation I guess.

72/Ed we6w

--

-Ed AR Millennium Q's=>1600/2000 QRP-L#1068 Old NC#2227  
72, Ed WE6W, A-1 OP; <http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA  
QRP-Z#106 AR#112 HI-QRP#64 ARCI#9397 ARS#275

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 14:38:47 EDT  
From: N9DD@aol.com  
To: QRP-L@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53632] Re: Which rig to build series?  
Message-ID: <0.461bfeb1.253f6637@aol.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Wow! Thanks to the half-dozen people who sent me replies within minutes of my posting. A couple of them had the whole series on which rig to buy attached to the emails!

Thanks and 73!

Tom N9DD

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 11:38:58 -0700  
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53633] Pacificon Reports - FB!  
Message-ID: <380E0C41.C0FD179C@qsl.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang, these P'con reports have been great. Everything is so fast and fleeting it is a wonder we all aren't blocking doorways to share our little toys with a fellow ham buddy.

I have to say I'm guilty of being overly excited at these events. Perhaps as audible as the loud guy on the Dilbert Cartoon show.

But seriously, I was in the planter box showing the resonant speaker (parts). There's about 4 major parts but I had many versions to share. Imagine my amazement that my Samuel F. B. Morse award was somehow packed in there with all my gear... Finally got to show it to a few friends.

I also had a genuine photo from our "Jack Tar" base magazine showing the morse code training room with all the computers and displays. This is at the Naval Technical Training Center in Pensacola Florida. The base has had a different name in the 60's but the Morse award and graduation certificates have the above title.

Probably one of the most memorable moments was at night, when walking to the car. A local ham friend was carrying his recently acquired spool of magnet wire. From 8 feet away I say: "Wow, looks like a nice spool of 26 AWG!"

With all the snorkelin' and "How did ja know?" comments I realized I had floored him with my eyeball measurement. Sure enuf, 26 AWG written in microfont on the spool.

Me luv wire. Happy dance, hit the road, shed a tear.

72/Ed we6w

--

-Ed AR Millennium Q's=>1600/2000 QRP-L#1068 Old NC#2227  
72, Ed WE6W, A-1 OP; <http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA  
QRP-Z#106 AR#112 HI-QRP#64 ARCI#9397 ARS#275

-----

Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 14:54:13 +0000  
From: Michael Neverdosky <mneverdosky@earthlink.net>  
To: qrp-l mailing list <qrp-l@Lehigh.edu>

Subject: [53634] Re: Honest RST reports  
Message-ID: <380DC985.E4818A48@earthlink.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Here is the crux.  
People are not following the rules now.

RST is defined as a signal report.  
A automatic 599 is not a signal report, it is a place keeper, a sync bit  
or something else but it is not a signal report.

Keep the silly thing but don't try to tell me it is something it is not.

I think maybe it should be called a restrictor plate.

michael N6CHV

Dave Sjolin wrote:

> If you dont like the rules, dont participate in contests. No one is  
> forcing you to participate. Besides, the rules arent written for the  
> dabblers.

-----

Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 12:16:08 -0700 (PDT)  
From: Christian Void <cvoid@netcom.com>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53635] building reduction drives  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9910201231.A7628-01000000@netcom11.netcom.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

has anyone here (and i am assuming this is a yes) built a homebrew  
reduction drive, and if so, how did you do it? any tips or gotchas?

thanks in advance.

-----

Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 13:23:35 -0600  
From: Bruce Kizerian <kizerian@ced.utah.edu>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [53636] ElmeRadio and Happy Dance  
Message-ID: <380E16B6.E0FDDAE2@ced.utah.edu>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The ElmeRadio AM Regen kit is ready to distribute (at least in very small quantities)! Works great! Tried to do the happy dance, carefully following instructions, but got confused, tripped over myself and fell down.

Stay tuned--more to come.

Bruce kk7zz

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 09:32:07 -1000  
From: "Art Neilson, AH6PZ" <art@hawaii.rr.com>  
To: Joel Malman <malman@world.std.com>  
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53637] Re: window vs ladder line  
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.19991020093207.008bfbb0@clients1.hawaii.rr.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Right, understand most folks use window line nowadays, just was wondering if it's worthwhile to use true ladder line instead as I located a source for it :^).

I've read baluns in high impedance circuits can have some undesirable effects like high magnetic flux densities causing the ferrite cores to saturate, producing waveform distortion and harmonics etc.

At 03:10 PM 10/20/99 -0400, you wrote:

>Art,

>

>> Picked up some 450 ohm window line however have heard that  
>> true open ladder line is even less lossy than window line.  
>> Is there any compelling reason to use true ladder line as  
>> opposed to window line as a feeder?

>

> I suspect very few hams actually use open wire (with spacers). It's  
> just too much work. Ladder line (aka window wire) at 450 ohms is just

```

> fine. I have used it for years to drive a G5RV style antenna.
>
>> Also understand that most balanced tuners use a 4:1 balun
>> to drop the impedance to a tunable level. Are true balanced
>> tuners available here in America, I heard Europe uses them
>> quite a bit.
>
> A 4:1 balun build into an antenna tuner is NOT a unusual thing here.
> Check out the MFJ line of antenna tuners. The 949E's are very popular
> and work just fine. Pretty easy way to get an 'all band' dipole up
> and running.
>
>gl... joel K1 Queen Mary
>
>
>
>--
>/joel K1QM (Ex-wa1qvm) Concord, Massachusetts
>QRP-L 337, QRP-ARCI 9305, MI-QRP 1641, NorCal #1884
>
--
/*
 * /-- ) _/_ It is a capital mistake to theorise before one has data.
 * /--/ _ _ / Insensibly one begins to twist facts to suit theories,
 * / (_/ (<__ Instead of theories to suit facts.
 * -- Sherlock Holmes, "A Scandal in Bohemia"
 * Arthur W. Neilson III, AH6PZ
 * Bank of Hawaii Tech Support
 * art@hawaii.rr.com
 */

```

```

-----

Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 16:02:27 -0400
From: "Jim Kortge, K8IQY" <jokortge@prodigy.net>
To: SFIKE@twa.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [53638] Re: 2N2/40 Elmer
Message-ID: <3.0.1.32.19991020160227.00712bdc@pop.prodigy.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

```

At 08:51 PM 10/14/99 LOC, you wrote:

```

>Gang,
>Here we are nearly half-way through October and there hasn't been an ongoing
>2N2/40 Elmer series as had been planned for this month here on QRP-l.
>Anybody know what happened? I was really looking forward to the series.....
>72

```

>Scott,kc0bus

>

Yep....I was going to get that going, but the 2N2/6 transverter project and an invite to present a paper on the project at Pacificon go in the way. I'm also comitted to add more information to that paper, so that it can become a full fledged construction article for the Winter Issue of QRPP.

Chuck, K7Q0 and I talked about the Elmer 300 series while at Pacificon, and we haven't sorted it all out yet, but will eventually. In the meantime, I also want to do a 2N2/XX rig for 15 meters, as there is much interest in something like that from our ham brothers and sisters in developing countries, who don't have ICs and the like for building rigs. But, they can get decent transistors, and want a rig for 15 meters since the band has started to come alive.

So you know what I'm going to be working on this winter, along with some other ideas that need to be fleshed out.

72 and thanks for asking.....Jim, K8IQY

-----

Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 13:06:23 -0700 (PDT)  
From: Jeff <fantbb@yahoo.com>  
To: qrp qrp <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [53639] RE: Nice gell cell charger from Walmart  
Message-ID: <19991020200623.23944.rocketmail@web115.yahoomail.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

--- Kevin Muenzler WB5RUE <wb5rue@stic.net> wrote:  
> Be sure it DOES NOT charge faster than 1/10th the amp-hour of the  
> cell,  
> 1/20th would be even better. I have a float-charger for my lawn  
> tractor  
> that I got from Wal-Mart for about \$25. It charges at up to 1.5  
> amps which  
> would COOK most moderately sized gell-cell batteries. So unless  
> you have a  
> bit honking gell-cell (15 + amp hrs) don't use such a charger.

Well, I checked the cell every few hours and saw the voltage of the cell increase from around 6 volts (yeah I know that is really low) and took it over 12 hours to get to 12.5 volts. It also never got warm.

At that point the charger should float it at I guess around that

voltage.

It is a 12 volt 1.5 amp hour charger by the way.

Jeff

=====

Jeff Jones

AB6MB

NorCal QRP Club #65, QRP-L #1780

CW Forever!!!

Ghost Hunter

Owner of the Delta MudCats fantasy baseball team

Voicemail/Fax 1-888-Excite2 ext 925-439-2514

-----  
Do You Yahoo!?

Bid and sell for free at <http://auctions.yahoo.com>

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 15:16:17 -0500

From: "Kevin Muenzler WB5RUE" <wb5rue@stic.net>

To: <fantbb@yahoo.com>, "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [53640] RE: Nice gell cell charger from Walmart

Message-ID: <000201bf1b37\$f7e2f260\$ef5d6f81@uthscsa.edu>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I guess that charger is "smarter" than I give credit for the "typical Wal-Mart class" of item....

73/

Kevin

> -----Original Message-----

> From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

> [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU]On Behalf Of

> Jeff

> Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 1999 3:06 PM

> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

> Subject: RE: Nice gell cell charger from Walmart

>

>

> Well, I checked the cell every few hours and saw the voltage of the

> cell increase from around 6 volts (yeah I know that is really low)

> and took it over 12 hours to get to 12.5 volts. It also never got



> warm.  
> At that point the charger should float it at I guess around that  
> voltage.  
>  
> It is a 12 volt 1.5 amp hour charger by the way.  
>  
> Jeff  
>  
> =====  
> Jeff Jones  
> AB6MB  
> NorCal QRP Club #65, QRP-L #1780  
> CW Forever!!!  
> Ghost Hunter  
> Owner of the Delta MudCats fantasy baseball team  
> Voicemail/Fax 1-888-Excite2 ext 925-439-2514  
> -----  
> Do You Yahoo!?  
> Bid and sell for free at <http://auctions.yahoo.com>  
>

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 13:19:15 -0700  
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53641] Searchin' for link-tuner (ATU). Loop antennas.  
Message-ID: <380E23C3.142BD3C1@qsl.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang, I'm in the market for a nice big, swinging-link coupled, balanced and unbalanced, efficient tuner for the SHACK. Not a backpack thingy, a big HONKIN' Nils-Bull full-tahootie style thing. The efficient one, I hear is awesome.

Small TX loops are great. USE BUTTERFLY capacitor as previously posted. ON4CEQ has THE capacitor design info. Link from AA5TB's page.

72/Ed

--

-Ed AR Millennium Q's=>1600/2000 QRP-L#1068 Old NC#2227  
72, Ed WE6W, A-1 OP; <http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA

QRP-Z#106 AR#112 HI-QRP#64 ARCI#9397 ARS#275

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 16:27:35 EDT  
From: RangerSF5@aol.com  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53642] FS qrp  
Message-ID: <33567988.253f7fb7@aol.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang,  
I decided to sell my SST 20-M.  
This one has the tick keyer built in, 5 watt mod and extended RX  
\$125.00 plus shipping  
Also have a beautiful looking OHR 40-M Elplore # 2 \$80.00 plus shipping  
Thank You  
Bob  
WA2HQrp <tm>

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 16:27:49 -0400 (EDT)  
From: Bob Patten <n4bp@bc.seflin.org>  
To: Michael Neverdosky <mneverdosky@earthlink.net>  
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53643] Re: Honest RST reports  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9910201657.C8435-01000000@bc.seflin.org>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Wed, 20 Oct 1999, Michael Neverdosky wrote:

>  
> RST is defined as a signal report.  
> A automatic 599 is not a signal report, it is a place keeper, a sync bit  
> or something else but it is not a signal report.  
>

Not sure if you were the one into semantics, so please no flames. But  
out of curiosity, I just read through the "Contest Corral" in my November  
QST. In every contest that used RST as part of the exchange, the rules  
stated "Exchange RST....". No mention of a signal report anywhere in the  
Contest Corral.

73,

Bob Patten, N4BP

( 0 0 )

Plantation, FL

-----o00o-( )-o00-----

E-Mail: n4bp@bc.seflin.org  
Web Page: <http://wg104a.wh.uni-stuttgart.de/~n4bp>  
Brass Pounder BBS: (954) 472-7715

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 16:14:43 -0700  
From: Charles Kadesch <chas@digizen.net>  
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53644] re: Window vs Ladder Line  
Message-ID: <380E4CE3.43F5@digizen.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

There is some controversy about what is a truly balanced tuner. I would recommend an old Johnson Matchbox, a Harvey-Wells Z Match (or a ZM2), or a link coupled tuner as per the older ARRL handbooks. I have also had good results by "floating" an LC tuner and putting a balun at the input rather than the output of the tuner. You can also build a tuner with identical LC networks in each leg and put a choke balun on the input. I have used both 450 ohm ladder line and homebrew open-wire line but never noticed any performance differences. If the antenna is a long way from the shack, a heavy duty (#12 wire or so) open-wire line would be a good choice. I always use the heavier duty 450 ohm line (#14 stranded conductors) because it is stronger. All my antennas (Zepps & verticals) are fed with 450 ohm ladder line.

-72-

Chas W3KC

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 16:31:31 -0400  
From: "ai2q" <ai2q@ispchannel.com>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion (E-mail)" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [53645] Aw shucks! Where'd ya get it?  
Message-ID: <000601bf1b3a\$185d8b20\$5c32a7d0@ai2q.ispchannel.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Okay Art, ain't you a-gonna share where your source is? :-)

Vy 73, AI2Q, Alex in Kennebunk, Maine, QRP-L # 687 .-.-.

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of Art Neilson, AH6PZ

Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 1999 3:32 PM

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

Subject: Re: window vs ladder line

Right, understand most folks use window line nowadays, just was wondering if it's worthwhile to use true ladder line instead as I located a source for it :^).

I've read baluns in high impedance circuits can have some undesirable effects like high magnetic flux densities causing the ferrite cores to saturate, producing waveform distortion and harmonics etc.

At 03:10 PM 10/20/99 -0400, you wrote:

>Art,

>

>> Picked up some 450 ohm window line however have heard that  
>> true open ladder line is even less lossy than window line.  
>> Is there any compelling reason to use true ladder line as  
>> opposed to window line as a feeder?

>

> I suspect very few hams actually use open wire (with spacers). It's  
> just too much work. Ladder line (aka window wire) at 450 ohms is just  
> fine. I have used it for years to drive a G5RV style antenna.

>

>> Also understand that most balanced tuners use a 4:1 balun  
>> to drop the impedance to a tunable level. Are true balanced  
>> tuners available here in America, I heard Europe uses them  
>> quite a bit.

>

> A 4:1 balun built into an antenna tuner is NOT an unusual thing here.  
> Check out the MFJ line of antenna tuners. The 949E's are very popular  
> and work just fine. Pretty easy way to get an 'all band' dipole up  
> and running.

>

>gl... joel K1 Queen Mary

>

>

>

>--

```
>/joel K1QM (Ex-wa1qvm) Concord, Massachusetts
>QRP-L 337, QRP-ARCI 9305, MI-QRP 1641, NorCal #1884
>
--
/*
 * /-- ) _/_ It is a capital mistake to theorise before one has data.
 * /--/ _ _ / Insensibly one begins to twist facts to suit theories,
 * / (_/ (_<__ Instead of theories to suit facts.
 * -- Sherlock Holmes, "A Scandal in Bohemia"
 * Arthur W. Neilson III, AH6PZ
 * Bank of Hawaii Tech Support
 * art@hawaii.rr.com
 */
```

-----

Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 13:45:41 -0700  
From: dave\_epps@juno.com  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53646] Red Hot 40  
Message-ID: <19991020.134542.-114495.1.dave\_epps@juno.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I couldn't resist getting the RH 40 kit from Dave at pacificon . It is a great kit.  
Dave used a spreadsheet type parts list with a cross reference to an item number in the actual building instructions and it really makes it easy. A real pleasure to build.  
It's a real blast stuffing a "RED" board.  
dave ab5pc fresno, ca.

-----

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Try Juno Web: <http://dl.www.juno.com/dynoget/tagj>.

-----

Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 13:51:26 -0700  
From: Jim Lowman <jmlowman@ix.netcom.com>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53647] Chuck's (K7Q0) Generosity  
Message-ID: <380E2B4D.C93E80C@ix.netcom.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang,

One of the personal highlights of Pacificon came fairly late on Saturday evening. Chuck had several of his paddles on display in the back of the QRP hospitality suite. I was joking around, trying to get Sam Imai (KF6ML) to distract Chuck while I pretended to put his March paddles in my pocket.

Well, a short while later, Chuck picked up the paddles, handed them to me, and said "Give these back the next time that you see me."

Not to take anything away from Chuck as a person, but this act of generosity is typical of the reason that I enjoy QRP and QRPers. To paraphrase a popular term, I call it "old-fashioned ham values." This was typical of hams when I joined the ranks in 1966. It's nice to see that the concept is alive and well among us.

This means that I get to enjoy the loan of this fine piece of machinery until at least the DX Convention in Visalia next April, which I'm attempting to convince Chuck to attend. While it's pretty much a bunch of QRO types, the principles of propagation and DXing still work at QRP levels. If I'm not sufficiently convincing, then it's Ft. Tuthill for sure. Well, my birthday is on the DX Convention weekend (tax day, no less) so maybe Judy will get me the Mercury paddles if I have to return the March paddles to Chuck then. I just about drooled all over the Mercury display Saturday evening.

Not that everyone doesn't know what an all-around nice guy Chuck is, but I couldn't let this gesture go unrecorded.

72 de Jim - AD6CW  
Pacificon 2000 - just 361 days away!

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 17:29:09 -0400  
From: "Ronald Hands" <rhands@hwcen.org>  
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [53648] Sealing antenna joints  
Message-ID: <000901bf1b42\$28470e00\$d15ed4c7@default>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'd like to tap the collective wisdom -- again.

It's time to seal the connections at the bottom of my ground-mounted Butternut vertical in preparation for another fun Canadian winter.

Last time, I used some sort of clear silicone rubber material, which seems to have worked quite well. It's still flexible and does not seem to have corroded anything. However, I had to tear most of it off in order to add a new 72-ohm matching section.

Unfortunately I can't remember exactly what I used last time.

Anyone have any recommendations? I have a vague recollection of past warnings against using some materials because they contain chemicals, as plasticisers or to prevent mold, that can mess up electrical connections.

Replies direct to rhands@hwcnc.org greatly appreciated.

-- Ron VE3SP  
Hamilton, ON

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 17:31:45 EDT  
From: Drbob92031@aol.com  
To: cvoid@netcom.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [53649] Re: building reduction drives  
Message-ID: <0.1c36d582.253f8ec1@aol.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 10/20/99 3:19:05 PM Eastern Daylight Time, cvoid@netcom.com writes:

<< has anyone here (and i am assuming this is a yes) built a homebrew reduction drive, and if so, how did you do it? any tips or gotchas? >>

>>>>Christain;

I have made a reduction drive but I did not use gears. I used small, nested belt pulleys. Lets assume that you have a pair of "nested" pulleys. 3 wheels to each spindle. Largest wheel is 1" in diameter the next is 1/2" and finally 1/4" One pulley is attached to the mechanism you want to revolve and the other pulley set is attached to the shaft that will be the primary rotator. A small belt goes from one diameter wheel on the primary rotator and to one of the pulleywheels on the secondary rotator. If you want to slow down the rotation of the secondary wheel as if you were rotating an induction coil, then the primary pulley has the belt on the smallest diameter pulley

section and the belt then goes over one of the larger diameter wheels on the secondary pulley assembly. The concept being that the linear traverse for the same angular travel of the pulley wheels is greatest on the largest diameter wheel and least on the smallest diameter pulley wheel. This ratio also relates to the transfer of torque in the direct ratio of the wheel diameters. In other words what I am trying to do is let you grasp how the dial mechanism works in a tuner that employs a corded dial movement.

72/73 de WA2EAW..Bob

-----  
Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 14:44:37 -0700  
From: "W. Frank Nance, W6MN" <frank@w6mn.reno.nv.us>  
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
Cc: ku7y@dri.edu  
Subject: [53650] MN9 QRP TRANSCEIVER  
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19991020214437.0068300c@mail.greatbasin.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Via Ron Stark, KU7Y, I learned that the ad for my new rig is now in Nuts & Volts, pg 3, upper-left corner. Also, some might have read my article in April 99 issue of QRP Quarterly. At Ron's request, I am submitting this posting to QRP-L. It is my design and it will be marketed and sold exclusively by HSC.

The pilot production unit is finished and working and a QSO on 40CW with Dave, WA6BOY, confirmed it's operation. Having just returned from PACIFICON, here is the status:

The first 40 kits will be delivered to Halted Specialties (HSC Electronic Supply) per sked between 1 and 10 November '99 and are for sale to selected beta testers. By 1 November, a working unit will be at the Santa Clara HSC store. HSC's WEB page, [www.halted.com](http://www.halted.com), lists the kit as their part #80503. By mid Nov., I hope to have considerable tech detail submitted to HSC for inclusion on that web pg.

100 cabinets are on hand, as well as 50 sets of PCs and by 1 Dec.'99 50 more sets of full production PCs, with no interconnecting leads, will be sent to HSC. As for my ability to keep up with orders, my cabinet maker, PC house and painter/silkscreener are high volume, quality businesses and could deliver as many as 1500 per week, if needed---hi. All parts are standard, off-the-shelf items. All mixers are SBL-1's and available in large quantities.

THE RIG: Pwr Out: 0-12W PEP SSB, 10W CW (both CW & SSB modes are included). Bands: 160-10 including WARC. Built ins: K1MG digital clock/counter, Codeboy keyer, SWR bridge, Dual, Half-lattice 9MHz Xtal Filt. (New production board



has slot for a 6 Xtal, CW filter, an option available by 1 January.) Full QSK CW. Circuit Types: Tuning is via varactor in a Vackar VFO and I have designed two OpAmp feedback ckts for two forms of drift. Two rear panel pots are used to set drift to zero. The 1st IF is tunable from 16 to 18 MHz and tracks with the VFO tuning knob. The kit manual will contain the theory of operation of each functional circuit, all of which are analog type circuits. THIS IS A HAM RIG WITH CIRCUITS THAT ARE EASILY CHANGED TO FIT INDIVIDUAL OPERATORS DESIRES. For example, altho the supplied Bandspread is adjustable from about 50KHz to as much as 2MHz (allowing 10mtr tuning in one sweep of tuning dial), with a simple op-amp change, these limits can be changed. The selected bandspread can be positioned at any desired portion of any band by using a LO and a HI pot in conjunction with the front panel tuning knob and observing the LCD readout, providing a unique range of tuning options and a new operating experience. X/RIT adjust is on front panel & a rear panel pot allows changing max coverage of this adjustment from about 1KHz to about 15KHz, each side of zero beat. A detented X/RIT adjust pot is planned for the production units, allowing "spot" like ole, separate Tx & Rx operation. Also, the second IF, 11.0 MHz is shiftable through the passband of the xtal filter via a front panel pot.

Any comments? contact me at my email addr: frank@w6mn.reno.nv.us --- Hpe to work U sn using the new rig...72/73 Frank, W6MN

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Date: Wed, 20 Oct 1999 16:47:38 -0500  
From: "Cla KA0GKC" <ka0gkc@arrl.net>  
To: "QRP-1" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [53651] Re: window vs ladder line  
Message-ID: <07f001bf1b45\$aac9aba0\$a10a5e2c@groucho>

Art Neilson, AH6PZ queried:

> Is there any compelling reason to use true ladder line as  
> opposed to window line as a feeder?

No, the difference in the loss of a normal run would be almost unmeasurable and of no significance.

> Also understand that most balanced tuners use a 4:1 balun  
> to drop the impedance to a tunable level. Are true balanced  
> tuners available here in America, I heard Europe uses them  
> quite a bit.

A balanced tuner would be a good idea. I'm sorry but I don't know of any available balanced tuners, but a link coupler is fairly easy to

build. L.B. just had a series of articles on the subject published in  
QQ I believe. Check his website. <http://www.cebik.com/>

Hope this Helps,

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73 de KA0GKC Claton Cadmus

[ka0gkc@arrl.net](mailto:ka0gkc@arrl.net)

MNQRP #1

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End of QRP-L Digest 1614

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